GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY GPH 111
Spring, 2004

INSTRUCTOR: Keith Miller     Class meets: T, R 4:15-7 pm
EMAIL: millerwolf@earthlink.net     OFFICE HOURS: by
PHONE (623) 393-8677 appointment

Required Text:
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY: A LANDSCAPE APPRECIATION 9th ed. by
Tom L. McKnight
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY GPH 111 LABORATORY MANUAL 5TH edition
by C. Jeffrey, S. Emrick, L. Newman, and J. Shaffer

Course Description:
The course covers the relationship between the elements of the physical environment
and humans. Attention is focused upon the world problems that stem from the interaction
of humans, the physical environment, the atmosphere and natural resources.

Instructional Objectives:
The student will be able to understand how factors, such as weather, climate,
earthquakes and volcanoes, contribute to the physical world around us. Special
emphasis will be focused on examining current events such as recent earthquakes and
weather problems that plague North America and the rest of the world. Students will also
gain a solid foundation in map reading and analysis. Finally, students will gain the ability
to understand and appreciate the development of ideas and a well-honed sense of
where we are in the history of humanity.

Method of Instruction:
This class will involve lectures, lab assignments, discussion, and viewing various media.
You are responsible for bringing the text to each class meeting.

Class Attendance:
You are expected to arrive to class on time. Class attendance will be taken at the
beginning of each class period. Late arrivals will be counted as a ½ absence for the day.
Class attendance will be a factor in determining the final letter grade for this course. If
you miss more than 4 classes, the instructor has the option of deducting 10% (one letter
grade) from your final grade. If you contact the instructor by email before class with a
valid excuse for being absent that day, it will count as a ½ absence

If you decide not to complete the course, it is your responsibility to withdraw before the
withdrawal deadline. The instructor will not process a withdrawal form for you. Failure to
submit a withdrawal form before the deadline will result in an automatic Failure.

Make-Up Policy:
Make-up exams will be held only for the unit exams, and must be scheduled during the
week following the exam. To qualify for a make-up exam you must contact me (by
email) before class on the day of the unit exam (No exceptions will be made.)
Grading Policy:
Grades will be based on 5 exams (4 unit exam and the Final) and 14 lab assignments (attendance and participation will be used to evaluation borderline grades). Each exam will be worth 30 points; each lab is worth 10 points for a total of 140 possible lab points. The unit exams will cover all class lectures and reading assignments for each of the first 3 course units (see Course Units). The Final will cover class work from course unit 4 and will include a section on lab skills worth an additional 10 points.

Exam questions will be based on material covered in class and the textbook. You will be responsible for all material covered in lecture unless otherwise noted. The instructor will cover material that is not contained in the text; therefore, it is important to get class notes if a class is missed. The instructor will not supply class notes for missed session. You will need to ask fellow students for notes on days you miss. You will be responsible for all material covered in class unless otherwise noted.

Lab assignments may be turned in for grading any time during the course unit in which it is assigned. (No late assessment will occur if labs for the previous course unit are turned in by the beginning of the 1st lab class of the next course unit). If you complete all lab sections you will receive full credit (you may need to review your lab work with me more than once during the course unit as I will grade you labs on accuracy.) You may leave class only when the lab assignment is completed. If you cannot successfully complete a lab during class, you can work on it during later lab sessions (during the concurrent course unit). You will be deducted 2 point for turning it in late (after the current course unit). The first 7 labs assignments must be turned in by the end of the Lab Catch-up day (Thursday of Week 8). Any of these labs turned in after that date will receive a maximum of 5 points.

Student Conduct and Behavior.
- Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in class. Any student causing a disturbance will be asked to leave class and will be marked absent for that class session.
- Cheating on tests will result in a failing grade for the course and possible further disciplinary action by Glendale Community College.
- No food or beverages are to be consumed during class (with the exception of students with medical needs).
- Beepers and cellular phones must be turned off during class.

The Weekly Course Outline maybe subject to change during the semester. Updates will be distributed as needed.