

Minnesota State University Moorhead

GEOS 110: Water, Land & People: An Introduction to Physical Geography

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 03 - Natural Science

This course addresses physical geography, some geology, and basic interactions between humans and their environment. Specific topics include landscapes and landscape formation, soils and ecosystems, surface and groundwater processes, weather and climate, natural hazards, and natural resources. MnTC goal 3.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 02/11/2022 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Soils and soil formation
2. Hydrology and water resources
3. Landscape geography and evolution
4. Natural resources and hazard
5. Earth/sun relations and energy balance
6. Weather and climate

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Students will be able to explain underpinning physical causes for the observed distribution of geographic features and climate.
2. Students will be able to determine which disciplines of the sciences have contributed to the various areas of geography.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of basic scientific principles of physical geography and explain relationships between these principles and observational evidence.
4. Students will gain an understanding of the basic principles of hydrology.
5. Students will develop a curiosity about geosciences as shown by their research papers.
6. Students will display an understanding of application of geosciences in to issues in society.
7. Students will demonstrate comprehension of the interconnected nature of all sciences as manifested in geoscience in their written work.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 03 - Natural Science

1. Demonstrate understanding of scientific theories.
2. Communicate their experimental findings, analyses, and interpretations both orally and in writing.
3. Evaluate societal issues from a natural science perspective, ask questions about the evidence presented, and make informed judgments about science-related topics and policies.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted