

Syllabus

Geography 1100 – Exploring the World through Google Earth

Fall 2019

Instructor: Tim Edgar, M.S., Assistant Professor (Lecturer)

Contact Information: tim.edgar@geog.utah.edu, GC 4842

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM, or by appointment

Class Time and Location: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:10 AM - 10:30 AM, GC 5680

Prerequisites: None

Course Fulfills: Physical/Life Science Exploration (SF) and Sustainability – Limited (SUSL) requirements

Department: Geography

Credit Hours

GEOG 1100 is a three credit hour course. At the University of Utah it is assumed that there is at least one hour in class and two hours outside of class per week or the equivalent combination connected to every credit hour.

Course Description

Social and environmental changes are occurring at rates never before witnessed in the history of humanity. Geographic data have revolutionized our view of the physical and human processes causing global change, and Google Earth has greatly increased our ability to access and visualize these data. This course uses Google Earth as a tool to investigate important geographic processes that are responsible for global change phenomena. Interactive, self-guided labs will use Google Earth to analyze datasets for topics including climate change, population growth, migration, land cover change, disease, and natural hazards.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Describe the basic factors that govern the Earth's energy budget, and explain how changes in these factors can lead to cooling or warming of the Earth system
- Explain the physical and human process responsible for global change phenomena
- Understand large scale changes in human and physical systems and the relative importance of these changes to the individual and societies
- Demonstrate effective use of Google Earth for the visualization and analysis of datasets

General Education

This course meets the Physical/Life Science (SF) requirement.

This course addresses the following Essential Learning Outcomes: Critical Thinking, Quantitative Literacy or Problem Solving, Foundations and Skills for Lifelong Learning.

Textbook

There is no textbook for this course. Lab assignments and quizzes will cover material discussed in class. For this reason, attendance and note taking at lecture is strongly encouraged.

Important dates

Last day to add, drop (delete), elect CR/NC, or audit classes

Friday, 30 August

Last day to withdraw from classes

Friday, 18 October

Assessments

Labs

There are 12 labs scheduled for this course. Lab assignments are posted to Canvas on the dates shown in the schedule below. Each lab will be completed outside of class and submitted as a document to Canvas by 9:00 AM on the due date specified in schedule below. Individual effort is required for the labs; group work on the labs is not permitted.

Each of the labs requires **Google Earth Pro, version 7.x**. Google Earth Pro is freely available for Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems. You can complete the labs on your own computer, or use a university computer lab that has the appropriate software. Previous versions of Google Earth, or versions of Google Earth on mobile devices, may not open or display the lab datasets properly.

Assignments are expected to be well formatted and free of spelling and grammatical errors. Poorly formatted assignments will not be graded; assignments will lose points for poor spelling and/or grammar. 10% of the value of the lab will be deducted for each day the lab is late (after 9:00 AM). Late labs will not be accepted more than one week after the due date. Your lowest lab score will be automatically dropped in determining your final grade.

Quizzes

Most weeks, there will be a short quiz on the previous week's material. Quizzes cannot be made up unless the instructor is contacted prior to an absence. If a make-up quiz is offered, it may take any form at the discretion of the instructor. If a written make-up quiz is offered, you will be required to take the quiz at Exam Services in the Marriott Library. A fee is charged by Exam Services for administration of exams.

There are a total of 12 quizzes scheduled for the course; your lowest quiz score will be automatically dropped in determining your final grade.

Final Project

All students are required to create a final project. For the project, you will need to source one or more Google Earth datasets that relate to a topic within the primary themes of the class: geography and environmental change. Your project must use datasets not covered in the lab assignments. You will submit a project proposal to Canvas with your selected topic and dataset(s) by Thursday, 31 October 11:59PM. Topics and datasets are "first come, first served;" if you select a topic or dataset that is the same or too similar to a dataset that someone else is using for their project, you may be required to choose another topic or dataset. If you have difficulty selecting a topic or finding a dataset, please consult with the instructor.

Your final project will include your dataset(s) along with placemarks that describe important attributes of the topic and dataset(s) you have selected. The project will be submitted as a Google Earth .kmz file.

Final projects are due on Thursday, 5 December by 11:59PM. Further guidance on the final project will be provided in class toward the middle of the semester.

Extra Credit

There are NO extra credit opportunities available in this course.

Grading

Percentage Points:

Lab Assignments	50 %
Quizzes	40 %
Final Project	10 %
Plagiarism Certification	3 %
Total	103 %

Grade Scale:

A	93-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	87-90%
B	83-87%
B-	80-83%
C+	77-80%
C	73-77%
C-	70-73%
D+	67-70%
D	63-67%
D-	60-63%
E	<60%

Table of Grades

Grades	Points	Explanation
A	(4.0 points)	Excellent performance, superior achievement
A-	(3.7 points)	
B+	(3.3 points)	Good performance, substantial achievement
B	(3.0 points)	
B-	(2.7 points)	
C+	(2.3 points)	Standard performance and achievement
C	(2.0 points)	
C-	(1.7 points)	
D+	(1.3 points)	Substandard performance, marginal achievement
D	(1.0 points)	
D-	(0.7 points)	
E	(0.0 points)	Unsatisfactory performance and achievement

Academic Misconduct Statement

As stated in the [Student Code](#); "Academic misconduct' includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information, as defined further below. It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct."

- "Cheating' involves the unauthorized possession or use of information, materials, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise, or the unauthorized communication with another person during such an exercise."
- "Misrepresenting one's work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one's own work, or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of both faculty members."
- "'Plagiarism' means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression."
- "'Fabrication' or 'falsification' includes reporting experiments or measurements or statistical analyses never performed; manipulating or altering data or other manifestations of research to achieve a desired result; falsifying or misrepresenting background information, credentials or other academically relevant information; or selective reporting, including the deliberate suppression of conflicting or unwanted data. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgments of data and/or results."

This course has a zero tolerance policy for academic misconduct. For any coursework in which it is demonstrated that a student engaged in academic misconduct the resulting academic sanction will be a score of zero for the coursework. Additionally the student will be required to meet with the academic advisor from the Department of Geography and/or your respective department, and the instance of academic misconduct will be entered into a university database. See the Student Code for additional information on academic sanctions.

Disabilities Statement

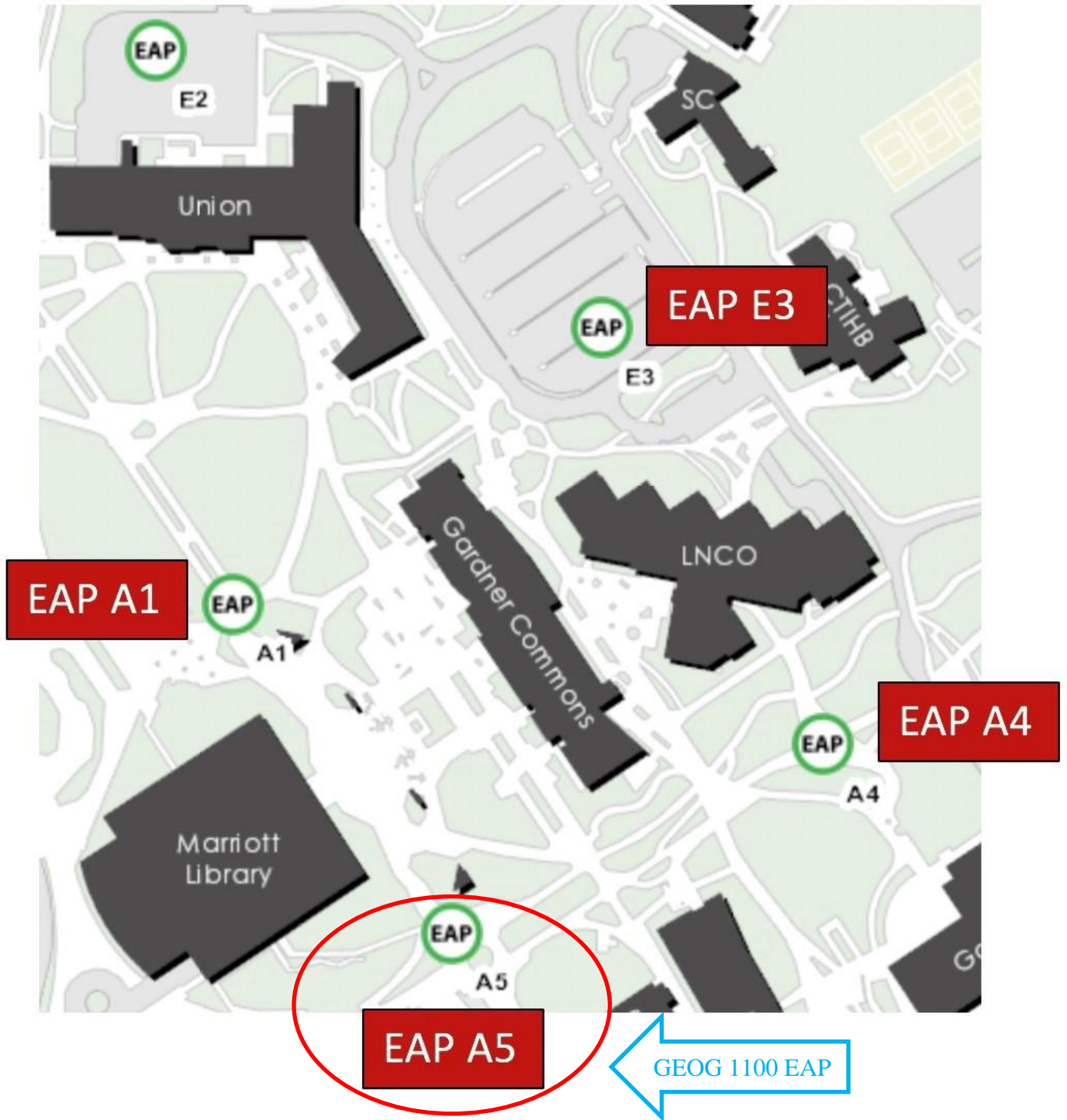
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020 (V/TDD). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.

Course Schedule*

Date	Topic	Quiz	Lab Available	Lab Due
Tue Aug 20	Introduction			
Thu Aug 22	Geographic principles, geospatial data, and Google Earth		1	
Tue Aug 27	Remote sensing			
Thu Aug 29	Working with KML files (<u>bring a laptop if you have one</u>)		2	1
Tue Sep 3	Earth's energy budget	1		
Thu Sep 5	Global atmospheric circulation and ocean currents		3	2
Tue Sep 10	Earth's climates	2		
Thu Sep 12	The ozone hole		4	3
Tue Sep 17	Global climate change I	3		
Thu Sep 19	Global climate change II		5	4
Tue Sep 24	Ice sheets and glaciers	4		
Thu Sep 26	Climate and ice sheets		6	5
Tue Oct 1	Aerosols and dust	5		
Thu Oct 3	No Class , use class time to research final project topics		7	6
Tue Oct 8	No Class, Fall Break			
Thu Oct 10	No Class, Fall Break			
Tue Oct 15	Carbon cycle	6		
Thu Oct 17	Water resources		8	7
Tue Oct 22	2018: Population 7.5 billion	7		
Thu Oct 24	Migration and urbanization		9	8
Tue Oct 29	No Class , use class time for final project			
Thu Oct 31	Final Project Topic Due Agriculture and food security		10	9
Tue Nov 5	Geography of Terrorism	8		
Thu Nov 7	Paleoecology: Reconstructing the past			10
Tue Nov 12	Fire and evacuation in the Wildland-Urban Interface	9		
Thu Nov 14	Climate and wildfire in the west		11	
Tue Nov 19	Natural hazards	10	12	
Thu Nov 21	El Niño			11
Tue Nov 26	Energy resources	11		12
Thu Nov 28	No Class, Thanksgiving Break			
Tue Dec 3	Energy resources			
Thu Dec 5	Conclusions, Final Project Due by 11:59 PM	12		

*Note that the above schedule is subject to change.

GEOG 1100 Emergency Assembly Point



Safety & Wellness

Your safety is our top priority. In an emergency, dial 911 or seek a nearby emergency phone (throughout campus). Report any crimes or suspicious people to 801-585-COPS; this number will get you to a dispatch officer at the University of Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS; dps.utah.edu). If at any time, you would like to be escorted by a security officer to or from areas on campus, DPS will help — just give a call. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

The University of Utah seeks to provide a safe and healthy experience for students, employees, and others who make use of campus facilities. In support of this goal, the University has established confidential resources and support services to assist students who may have been affected by harassment, abusive relationships, or sexual misconduct. A detailed listing of University Resources for campus safety can be found at <https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/campussafety.php>

Your well-being is key to your personal safety. If you are in crisis, call 801-587-3000; help is close. The university has additional excellent resources to promote emotional and physical wellness, including the Counseling Center (<https://counselingcenter.utah.edu>), the Wellness Center (<https://wellness.utah.edu>), and the Women's Resource Center (<https://womenscenter.utah.edu>). Counselors and advocates in these centers can help guide you to other resources to address a range of issues, including substance abuse and addiction.