Degree Applicable

Glendale Community College
March 2013

COURSE OUTLINE

Geography 110 (C-ID Number: GEOG~~eography~~ 140)
Geography of California (C-ID Title: California Geography)

I. Catalog Statement

Geography 110 takes a thematic approach to explore California's issues, processes and topics relevant to geography including climate, landforms, natural vegetation, water resources, cultural landscape, ethnic diversity, urban and agricultural regions, and the economy. This course explores the physical and human landscapes that have evolved as a result of the human-environment interface.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0
Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0
Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for English 120 or ESL 151.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 5, Writing 5, Listening/Speaking 5, Math 3.

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:
1. understand college-level reading selections;
2. take college-level lecture notes and follow complex oral directions;
3. learn material by participating in class discussions and lectures;
4. solve basic mathematical problems such as the addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of signed numbers as well as solve simple equations;
5. communicate learning, conceptual understanding and critical analysis skills through writing research papers, essay exams, or other types of writing assignments.

III. Course Exit Standards

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills and an understanding of:
1. the physical processes which shape the natural environments of California;
2. the origins and development of California's economy and the use of natural resources in the state;
3. the influence of varying cultural and ethnic groups in the shaping of the cultural landscapes of California;

4. patterns of urban development in the state.

IV. Course Content — Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48 hours

A. The major physical elements of California — 20 hours
   1. Climate
   2. Landforms
   3. Vegetation
   4. Soil
   5. Water resources

B. The human geography of California — 20 hours
   1. Population and distribution
   2. Economic activities
   3. Cultural landscapes
   4. Political Landscapes

C. California Regional Geography — 8 hours
   1. Southern California: cities, coast, and the Transverse Ranges
   2. California's deserts: the Colorado, Mojave, and Great Basin
   3. San Francisco Bay and the Central Coast
   4. The Central Valley and Sacramento
   5. The Sierra Nevada
   6. Northern California: Klamath Mountains and Modoc Plateau

V. Methods of Instruction

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:
1. lecture-discussion;
2. small group discussions;
3. audio-visual presentations;
4. student presentations;
5. web-based presentations;
6. local field trips.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:
1.creating content in preparation for in-class group presentations;
2.research and writing assignments addressing a topic relative to the course content (e.g., paper on ethnic groups in Los Angeles metro area);

3.online lessons completed with Moodle or another approved LMS online exercise (e.g., Moodle-based lesson on California's political structure).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. midterm examinations;
2. group presentation (e.g., group presentation on California's water resources);
3. final examination.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Selby, William. *Rediscovering the Golden State 2nd Edition.*
Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2005. Print.
13th Grade Reading Level. ISBN: 978-0471732488

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework in Geography of California, the student will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills and an understanding of:

1. the physical processes which shape the natural environments of California;
2. the use of natural resources in the state, particularly the role of water in the development of both the economic and cultural landscapes of California;
3. the influence of varying cultural and ethnic groups in the shaping of the cultural landscapes of California;
4. the origins and development of California's economy: agriculture, industry, and services;
5. patterns of urban development in the state and evaluate current and future trends.

Justification

Geography 110 is an optional course for the Associate in Arts for Transfer degree in Geography. This course is related to the college goal of continuing the development of AA and AS-T degrees. The Geography AA-T degree is accepted by the California State Universities to which our students most frequently transfer.