




**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Revisions to General Education Requirements

Use this form to request any change to the General Education Requirements specified in Policies 2:7 – Baccalaureate General Education Curriculum and 2:26 – Associate Degree General Education Requirements. This includes any changes to the System General Education Requirements, Institutional Graduation Requirements, Globalization/Global Issues Requirement, and Writing Intensive Requirement.

NOTE: This process does not include approval for the development of a new course. If the proposal does include the development of a new course, the new course process must be completed before the course will be considered for inclusion in any set of the General Education Requirements

DSU	College of Arts and Science		Nov, 2016
Institution	Division/Department	Institutional Approval Signature	Date

Indicate (X) the component of the General Education Curriculum that the proposal impacts.

System General Education Requirements

Indicate (X) the revision(s) that is being proposed (more than one may be checked).

Revision to an approved course

Addition of a course to the set of approved courses

Deletion of an approved course from the set of approved courses

Section 1. Provide a Concise Description of the Proposed Change

During the last curriculum cycle, DSU received approval from the other universities to offer this common course. DSU completed and requested authority to offer an existing common course, GEOG 131 Physical Geography: Weather and Climate and GEOG 131L Physical Geography: Weather and Climate Lab. This document is to seek approval to include this course in meeting the SGE #6 Natural Sciences at DSU.

Section 2. Provide the Effective Date for the Proposed Change

Fall 2017

Section 3. Provide a Detailed Reason for the Proposed Change

The proposed course will allow DSU students another option in fulfilling the SGE #6 requirement. The DSU Assessment Committee has concurred with the recommendation that these courses meet the goals for this requirement.

Section 4. Provide Clear Evidence that the Proposed Modification will Address the Specified Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

Attached is the course syllabus.

Section 5. Provide a Copy of all Course Syllabi and Other Supporting Documentation

9. Authority to offer effective beginning in what term?

Spring 2017

10. Section Restriction:

none

Course Syllabus

Course Prefix, Number, and Title: GEOG 131/131L,

Credits: 4 credit hours

University name: Dakota State University

Academic term/year: XX

Last date to Drop and receive 100% refund: XX

Last date to Withdraw and earn a grade of 'W' XX

Course meeting time and location: XX

Instructor information:

Name: Kari Forbes-Boyte, Ph.D,

Office: Beadle Hall 327

Phone number(s): 605-256-5272

Email address: Kari.Forbes-Boyte@dsu.edu

Office hours: XX

Approved course description:

Catalog description

An introduction to the physical patterns of Earth focusing on location, Earth-sun relationships, portrayal of the Earth, cartographic analysis, and weather and climate.

Additional course information:

none

Prerequisites:

Course prerequisite(s):

There are no prerequisites for the course.

Technology skills:

There are no specific technology skills required for the course, other than as outlined in the WMCI statement below.

Course materials:

Required textbook(s):

none

Required supplementary materials:

Any supplementary materials will be either on-line or provided by the professor.

Optional materials:

none

Course delivery and instructional methods:

This course is a project based course. Students will be engaged in project based learning which will allow them to learn important geographic concepts and critical thinking skills. The professor will also provide out-of-class writing prompts. In addition, there will be multi-media presentations, videos, and mini-lectures. Readings will come from supplementary materials. Because it is project based, it is expected that students will work outside of class on research so that they come into class prepared to work.

Classroom policies:

Attendance and make-up policy:

Students will be responsible for both in-class and out-of-class assignments. It is expected that students attend class consistently because lab assignments are done in class and cannot be made-up. Any out of class assignments are due on the due date assigned; late assignments will not be accepted.

All assignments should be submitted to the D2L dropbox for the course. If you have any problems with submitting them this way, you can use the D2L email or my regular DSU email, Kari.Forbes-Boyte@dsu.edu. I use the time indicated on the D2L for submissions, or the time and date of the email to determine if an assignment is on time.

ADA Statement:

If you have a documented disability and/or anticipate needing accommodations (e.g., non-standard note taking, extended time on exams or a quiet space for taking exams) in this course, please contact the instructor. Also, please contact Dakota State University's ADA coordinator, Keith Bundy (located in the Student Development Office in the Trojan Center Underground or via email at Keith.Bundy@dsu.edu or via phone (605-256-5121) as soon as possible. The DSU website containing additional information, along with the form to request accommodations, is available at <http://www.dsu.edu/student-life/disability-services/index.aspx>. You will need to provide documentation of your disability. The ADA coordinator must confirm the need for accommodations before officially authorizing them.

Academic Honesty Statement:

Cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty run contrary to the purpose of higher education and will not be tolerated in this course. Please be advised that, when the instructor suspects plagiarism, the Internet and other standard means of plagiarism detection will be used to resolve the instructor's concerns. DSU's policy on academic integrity ([DSU Policy 03-22-00](#)) is available online. All forms of academic dishonesty will result in a zero for the assignment.

Freedom in Learning Statement:

Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled. Under Board of Regents and University policy, student academic performance shall be evaluated solely on an academic basis and students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study. It has always been the policy of Dakota State University to allow students to appeal the decisions of faculty, administrative, and staff members and the decisions of institutional committees. Students who believe that an academic evaluation is unrelated to academic standards but is related instead to judgment of their personal opinion or conduct should contact the dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.

University Policy Regarding the Use of Tablets in the Classroom:

The Tablet PC platform has been adopted across the DSU campus for all students and faculty, and tablet usage has been integrated into all DSU classes to enhance the learning environment. Tablet usage for course-related activities, note taking, and research is allowed and encouraged by DSU instructors. However, inappropriate and distracting use will not be tolerated in the classroom.

Instructors set policy for individual classes and are responsible for informing students of class-specific expectations relative to Tablet PC usage. Failure to follow the instructor's guidelines will hinder academic performance and may lead to disciplinary actions. Continued abuse may lead to increased tablet restrictions for the entire class.

Because tablet technology is an integral part of this course, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that his/her Tablet PC is operational prior to the beginning of each class period.

Course Goals:

GEOG 131/131L meets the General Education, Goal 6: Natural Sciences. Students will understand the fundamental principles of the natural sciences and apply scientific methods of inquiry to investigate the natural world.

Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:

1. Demonstrate the scientific method in laboratory experience. This is embedded into the course and individual projects are designed to demonstrate the scientific method and provide the laboratory experience.
 - a. Students will demonstrate meeting this outcome through lab experiments.
2. Gather and critically evaluated data using the scientific method. Classroom projects are designed to gather and critically evaluate data, as are the final individual student presentations.
 - a. Students will demonstrate meeting this outcome through lab experiments.
3. Identify and explain basic concepts, terminology and theories of the selected natural science. Quizzes have been designed to identify students' abilities to explain concepts, terminology and theories of physical geography.
 - a. Students will demonstrate meeting this outcome through achieving an 80% or better on all quizzes.
4. Apply selected natural science concepts and theories to contemporary issues. Classroom projects and the final individual student presentations will apply concepts and theories to contemporary issues.
 - a. Students will demonstrate meeting this outcome through lab experiments and critical thinking/problem solving exercises.

Evaluation Procedures:

Assessments:

The primary assessment will be assignments and labs. Students will receive points on in-class and out-of-class assignments. There is no make-up for missed lab assignments and the due-date for out-of-class assignments will be strictly enforced. In addition, after each unit a 25 point quiz will be administered.

Final examination:

A final quiz will be given on the scheduled final date. No make-ups will be allowed for this. If students are not in class on that day, they will receive a 0 for their quiz. The date for the final exam is **XX**.

Performance standards and grading policy:

90-100% --A
80-89% --B
70-79% --C
60-69% --D
59% or below --F

Tentative Course Outline and Schedule:

Week	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Essentials of Geography
2	Essentials of Geography
3	Technology
4	Solar Energy to Earth and the Seasons
5	Earth's Modern Atmosphere
6	Earth's Modern Atmosphere
7	Atmosphere and Surface Energy Balances
8	Global Temperatures
9	Atmospheric and Oceanic Circulations
10	Water and Atmospheric Moisture
11	Weather
12	Weather
13	Water Resources
14	Global Climate Systems
15	Climate Change
16	Climate Change