

Course Syllabus

GEOGRAPHY 1700: Natural Disasters (PS)

Instructor: Sally Timmins

Contact Information: Canvas Learning Management System

[Geosciences Department Website](#)

Required Material

Textbook: [Natural Hazards and Disasters](#) free eTextbook created by R. Adam Dastrup

Supplemental website: [SLCC Student ePortfolio](#), [Canvas](#), [ArcGIS Online](#), and [Google Earth](#)

Course Description

Students will be introduced to natural disasters; the processes and energy sources that produce them, along with the spatial distribution and pattern of natural phenomena, while developing an understanding of the impact these phenomena have on human activity.

- *Determine what the roles are of natural disaster mitigation at a federal and local governmental level, community level, and individual.*
- *Analyze and understand natural processes that create disaster events such as: earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, tsunamis, severe weather, disease, and climate change.*
- *Understand how natural hazards become disasters and ultimately catastrophes.*
- *Know how many natural processes are cyclical meaning that they a frequency of recurrence which also influences their magnitude.*
- *Analyze the role humans play in creating natural disasters (i.e. population growth, poverty, environmental degradation, climate change, and politics).*
- *Understand the technology used to measure and analyze natural processes such as satellite imagery, aerial photography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and ground data.*

SLCC General Education Statement

This course fulfills the *Physical Science* requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making

connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

SLCC ePortfolio Statement

In order for SLCC students to have a place to display and chronicle projects that demonstrate discipline-specific skills, critical thinking, and collaboration, SLCC has instituted a Gen Ed ePortfolio requirement in which students display their work from General Education courses. Students taking Gen Ed courses must place significant projects from those courses on a website they create that acts as a virtual portfolio of accomplishments in each course. In this way, prospective employers, community members, and transfer institutions can easily see the best of what each student has accomplished while attending SLCC. Your ePortfolio will allow you to include your educational goals, describe your extracurricular activities, and post your resume. When you finish your time at SLCC, your ePortfolio will then be a multi-media showcase of your educational experience. Visit <http://www.slcc.edu/gened/eportfolio> for more details.

You may visit the ePortfolio Lab in the basement of the Taylorsville Redwood Library during business hours, and staff will help you without an appointment. Finally, questions regarding the ePortfolio can be directed to eportfolio@slcc.edu.

Departmental Grading Scale

93-100 = A 90-92 = A- 87-89 = B+ 84-86 = B 80-83 = B- 77-79 = C+
74-76 = C 70-73 = C- 67-69 = D+ 64-66 = D 60-63 = D- 0-59 = E

Departmental Incomplete Grade Policy

Students must be passing and have completed 80% of the course work in order to be granted an incomplete. Students are responsible for making arrangements to complete the course.

Late Work

I expect all assignments and discussions to be turned in on time. Late work will not be accepted unless you are maimed, very sick, or otherwise incapable of using your fingers or your brain. If you experience such calamities, you may ask for an extension – providing documentation.

Online Participation and Attendance

For this course participation is attendance. Simply filling an “electronic” seat space is not participating in the class. In my view, being “intellectually absent” from class discussions/activities is no different than being physically absent for class. You are expected to come to log into Canvas DAILY, read the assigned textbook chapters, and engage in online class discussions/activities.

Plagiarism

Students commit plagiarism when they submit another person's work as their own. Plagiarism also includes the failure to attribute unique phrases, passages, or ideas to their original source (I will not grade any papers that do not contain both in-text and Works Cited citations). Plagiarism is a violation of the student code of conduct. Students who commit plagiarism will receive either an automatic E for that assignment or an E for the course, depending upon the severity of the plagiarism.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring accommodations or services under ADA, must contact the [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC). The DRC determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of these accommodations and services for the college." Please contact the DRC at the Student Center, Suite 244, Redwood Campus, 4600 So. Redwood Rd, 84123. Phone: (801) 957-4659, TTY: 957-4646.