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**LOS ANGELES MISSION COLLEGE**  
**PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY LABORATORY (GEOG 015) Section 3174**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Class Room: CMS 10; Time: T 3:30-6:40pm  
Office Location: CMS 240 (Inside Physical Science Dept)  
Consultation Hours: T 2:30-3:15pm; MW 9:30-10:30; M 5:00 – 6:30 pm; TTh 10:45-11:15;  
Email: [waktoldk@lamission.edu](mailto:waktoldk@lamission.edu) Tel: (818) 833-3408

Class Description: Geography 15 is the lab companion to Geography 1: Physical Geography lecture. Both classes deal with the world we live in, and how it works. The class goals are to develop sophisticated sets of skills, including map reading and interpretation, graphical data manipulation and analysis, and data collection in the field. Geography 15 will reinforce concepts covered in the lectures and exercises in the lecture course 001. Lecturing will be held to a minimum, so students will be expected to complete assigned preliminary readings before coming to lab each week. Lab activities will focus on problem solving, usually using “real world” environmental data from selected case studies in the earth sciences.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Precisely locate places using Latitude and longitude, UTM coordinate system, and township and range system.
2. Characterize the various methods of portraying earth and discuss the advantages and limitations of each method.
3. Calculate the intensity and duration of solar energy received across seasons and space on earth's surface.
4. Classify climate regions using climate data, interpret weather maps, and also apply fundamentals of weather forecasting.
5. Quantify and interpret the footprint of fluvial, aeolian, glacial, and coastal processes on the surface of the earth.

### Course Materials

- Required Text: David Shankman. Physical Geography Laboratory Manual. 6th Ed., Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, Iowa. \*\*\*Bring the Manual to each lab\*\*\*
- Calculator (scientific calculator not necessary)
- Pencils.
- A box (at least 6 colors) of color pencils.
- Twelve inches length inch/centimeter ruler.

### Course Requirements & Grades:

- In-class lab exercises: Each lab activity will be completed during a class session. Each completed lab is worth a maximum of 8 points. Total 120 points.

- Out-of-class activity: There will be one project (Physical Geography Incidence Log) that each student will complete as a homework assignment.
- Tests: there would be two tests (25 points each) covering material presented up to the week preceding the exam and one final exam (100 point) which is cumulative. The format of each exam will be discussed the week prior to the exam. No make-ups will be given for missed exams. If you miss one exam (except the final), points will be assigned based on 85% of the highest exam score during the semester. Any additional missed exam will receive zero points. The final exam must be taken; a missed final will receive zero points.

Labs: 15X8 = 120; Physical Environment Log: 20; Two tests: 50; Attendance and class activity 10;  
Final Exam: 100. Total: 300.

## Course Grading

> 90%	= A
80 - 89%	= B
70 - 79%	= C
55 - 69%	= D
< 55%	= F

## Class Policies

Students are responsible for your education, and my role is only to help them. By your enrollment in this class, I expect that you are willing to assume all responsibilities for successful completion of the course and are willing to abide by the policies that are set forth:

- Class time will be mostly spent in practical activities. It is expected that every student will participate and will not disturb the class with unnecessary talking.
- When you come to class, it is expected that you arrive on time, and that you will stay for the entire class period. If you arrive late, please come in through the back door and quietly take a seat in the last row so as not to disrupt the class.
- iPod and other headsets may not be worn in class. Cellular phones are to be turned off.

## Preparation

You are expected to invest a minimum of two hours in preparation for every hour of class time: text readings, review of class notes, mapping assignments, etc.

## Attendance

Attendance is your responsibility. Students are expected to be present at every class meeting (attendance rosters are maintained). This is a survey course and failure to attend class will result in your missing valuable information and material. All students are solely responsible for material missed as a result of absences. In other words, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from your

classmates! Each student should have the name, phone number, and e-mail address of several other students in the class. If you are absent, you should contact them to obtain information about what you missed and any assignments that may have been given. Absences in excess of 2 labs may result in exclusion from class. Arriving late for class is disruptive for everyone, and habitual tardiness may result in exclusion from class. Medical appointments, work, job interviews, child care responsibilities, etc., should be arranged so as not to occur during class time.

## Withdrawals

Non-attendance does not constitute withdrawal. It is your responsibility to drop. I will exclude only “no-shows” up through “census week.” You must be aware of the dates pertaining to withdrawals (see college catalogue and schedule of classes). You may drop the class any time through the last date to drop via the Admissions Office, on-line, or by phone. If you stop attending class without filing an official drop card with Admissions and Records by the scheduled deadline, you will receive a grade of Fail.

**Getting Help:** If you are having difficulty with the concepts presented in class, I will be happy to help you. Please see me after class or during the office hours if you are having problems. Getting help early will ensure a more successful course grade.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Cheating is unacceptable behavior for college students. If you are part of a cheating incident (either by giving or receiving assistance on an exam, or through plagiarism—submitting anyone else’s work as your own), you will receive a score of zero (with possible failure of the course), and recommended for disciplinary actions.

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Aug 28	Course Introduction 1. Field Mapping; 2. Latitude, Longitude, and Time
2	Sep 4	3. Earth-Sun Relations; 4. Solar Radiation
***	Sep 9	<b>Drop Deadline #1 – Last Day to Drop Classes Without “W”</b>
3	Sep 11	5. Changing Earth-Sun Relations; 6. Atmospheric Pressure and Winds
4	Sep 18	7. Global Atmosphere and Ocean Circulation 8. Atmospheric Humidity
5	Sep 25	<b>Review and First Exam</b>
6	Oct 2	9. Adiabatic Processes and Precipitation 10. Air Masses, Cyclonic Storms, and Fronts
7	Oct 9	11. Tropical Cyclones and Hurricanes; 12. Weather Analysis
8	Oct 16	13. Climate Classification; 14. Climate Change and Paleoclimatology
9	Oct 23	<b>Review and Second Exam</b>
10	Oct 30	15. Topographic Map and Aerial Photograph Interpretation 16. Global Positioning System Applications
11	Nov 6	17. Trigonometry Applications in Geographical Field Work; 18. Contour Mapping
12	Nov 13	19. Soil Properties; 20. Soil Erosion; 22. Runoff and Infiltration
***	Nov 18	<b>Drop Deadline #2 – Last Day to Drop Classes With a “W”</b>
13	Nov 20	23. Stream Discharge; 24. Recurrence Intervals; 25. Fluvial Geomorphology
	Nov 25	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>
14	Nov 27	26. Arid Landscapes; 27. Glaciated Landscapes; 28. Coastal Geomorphology
15	Dec 4	<b>General Revision for the Final Exam</b>
	Dec 11	<b>Final Exam (17:30 – 19:30)</b>