DEPT. Geog                    COURSE NUMBER: 1101

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 04

COURSE TITLE: Intro to Physical Geog

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
Studies the physical elements of the environment emphasizing earth-time relationships and their relationship to people, measurement of time time and distance, elements of weather, climates and land development.

AUDIENCE: Anyone that wants to know about the world and how it functions and how it affects the people around the world.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)
Area 5 by meeting the following competencies: Social studies
Area: 10 by meeting the following competencies: People and the Environment
Area: by meeting the following competencies:

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE:
STSK 0095 or evidence of college level reading ability through assessment.

LENGTH OF COURSE:
The course is one semester, 4 credits

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year ☐ fall ☑ spring ☑ summer ☐ undetermined ☐

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

1) ACADEMIC CONTENT: The academic objectives of this course are:
   a. This course will provide the learner with the background to tell time wherever they are given a longitude,
   b. They will know the basics of the weather system and climatology,
   c. They will know the basics of landform development, gradation process, and the fundamentals involved in the glaciation process.

2) THINKING SKILLS: This course will help students improve the effectiveness of their thinking skills through:
a. They will have to think about a map and how it applies to the world.
b. They will have to be able to differentiate the various weather patterns and how they fit together with a scheme of climates.
c. They will have to be able to comprehend how the earth was formed and how it is able to grow.
d. They will have to be able to understand how the glaciers formed and, at the same time, how they formed the land.

3) COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: This course will help students improve their oral and written communication skills through:
   a. Through the discussion in class they will gain a better understanding of the world environments and how it affects people.
   b. The paper will mandate that they write about an environmental issue that is facing the earth.

4) HUMAN DIVERSITY: This course will help students recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity through:
   a. How the various people of the world are affected by the various climates.
   b. What challenges do the people of the world face.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED: Intro to the Earth, Portraying Earth, the use of globe or a map; Intro to the Atmosphere; Insolation and Temperature, basic processes of heating and cooling; Atmospheric Pressure and Wind; general circulation of the atmosphere; Atmospheric Moisture, Global distribution of precipitation; Transient Atmospheric Flows and Disturbances; Climatic Zones and Types; the Internal Process, plate tectonics; Preliminaries to Erosion: Weathering and Mass Wasting; the Fluvial Process; and Glacial Modification of Terrain

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES: It is expected that each of the topics above will be mastered. In addition, a paper dealing with the environmental ramifications of one of the topics will also be completed.

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:

- Collaborative Learning
- Problem Solving
- Student Presentations
- Interactive Lectures
- Creative Projects
- Individual Coaching
- Lecture
- Films/Videos/Slides
- Demonstrations
- Other (describe below)
- Lab

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:

- Reading
- Tests
- Individual Projects
- Oral Presentations
- Worksheets
- Collaborative Projects
- Textbook Problems
- Papers
- Portfolio
EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: It is expected that each student will master the material presented and better understanding of the world and world problems.

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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