Instructor Information

Instructor:  Dr. Daniel Hoskins  
Office:  N/A  
Mailbox:  Math and Sciences Department  
Hours:  No office hours  
Phone:  870-834-4453  
Email:  dhoskins@uaptc.edu

*All emails and telephone calls will receive a response within two business days. Email is the best way to reach me.

Chair:  Michael Loya  501-812-2776  mloya@uaptc.edu  
Dean:  Dr Christie Oberste  501.812.2869  oberste@uaptc.edu

*If your emails and telephone calls do not receive a response within two business days, the appropriate chain of command is above.

Course Information

This is an online only course.

Catalog Description

This course examines the various physical features which define our planet. 3 Credit Hours

Course Materials

Required textbook:


Mission Statement

University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College provides access to high-quality education that promotes student learning and enables individuals to develop to their fullest potential.
Institutional Learning Outcomes and General Education

UA-PTC supports a college-wide institutional learning assessment program which concerns effective instructional methods and promotes student learning achievement by assessing:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Awareness
4. Information Literacy
5. Professionalism
6. Quantitative Literacy
7. Technology Literacy

For more information, please consult the following website: https://uaptc.edu/sla

Department / Program Learning Outcomes

The Social Sciences Department, consistent with the College’s mission and the Division’s objectives, encourages the success of its students in all technical fields and academic disciplines by promoting:

PLO #1

Students will examine a given historical event, issue, or individual to identify and discuss the impact of intellectual, political, religious, social, or cultural factors.

PLO #2

Students will compare and contrast two civilizations, individuals, social or political movements, ideas, time periods, religions, governments, economic systems or ideologies.

Student Learning / Course Outcomes

Expected Student Learning Outcomes:

The student will:

1. Develop skills in acquiring, communicating, and applying cultural knowledge.
2. Identify and acquire knowledge of resources and their uses.
3. Develop an understanding of the social, political, cultural, and economic forces that shape our world.
4. Analyze and understand cultural patterns and development.
GEOG 1310 Physical Geography: General Description:

Examination of the various physical features which define our planet. Expected Student Learning Outcomes:

The student will:
- Develop skills in acquiring, communicating, and applying geographic knowledge.
- Acquire knowledge about the spatial realities that shape our life on this planet.
- Analyze and understand physical features of the world.

Policies

Report a Complaint or Concern

UA-PTC takes very seriously complaints and concerns regarding the institution. Most complaints or concerns of a specific nature should be initiated and resolved at the campus level through normal college processes whenever possible. UA - Pulaski Technical College receives and resolves complaints using a variety of methods. To report a complaint or concern, please follow the link below.

https://www.uaptc.edu/report-a-concern-complaint

UA-PTC Attendance Policy

Education at UA-PTC requires students’ active involvement in the learning process. Thus, students are expected to attend all classes and actively engage in all learning assignments and/or opportunities provided in their classes. Class attendance should be treated as mandatory by all students as attendance will be taken by all instructors during the first two weeks of class. Additionally, a written policy on student attendance that is tied to course objectives and included in a course syllabus will be provided for each course by instructors.

Departmental Attendance Policy

In an online class, eligibility for Financial Aid is based on student participation. Logging into the course does not constitute participation. For purposes of roster certification, students must complete a gradable attendance artifact. Any student who does not complete the practice assignment within these first two weeks will be considered a “no show” according to the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such and dropped from the class.

Attendance and Participation are both required for this class and are tracked using course login records and assignment and/or test submissions. The instructor may drop students if you miss two consecutive assignments. The instructor may also elect to simply give you a grade based on your accumulated points.
Agencies granting financial assistance may be notified of the violation of the attendance policy by students receiving financial aid. Thus any student who does not log in for two consecutive weeks of class may be administratively withdrawn from the class.

**Course Policies**

The UA-PTC Catalog rules and regulations will be enforced in this course at all times. Please consult the following website for more information:


Professional behavior is required. Punctual attendance and intelligent participation are expected. Particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Some guidelines for communication are included in this syllabus to help you.

Since this is an online course, some of the Pulaski Technical College Student Handbook rules and regulations concerning the classroom are not applicable. However, appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations.

**Grading Policy**

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 to 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your final grade will depend on the total number of points scored out of a total of 500 points possible. Point distribution is as follows:

- Assignments (15 x 20 points) = 300 points
- Midterm Exam = 100 points
- Final Exam = 100 points
- TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE = 500 points
Weekly assignments make-up 60% of your final grade, therefore, it is important that you understand what is expected on them. Assignments will be graded as follows:

- F or D assignments are only 1 or 2 sentences long and is just your opinion.
- C assignments are 1 short paragraph and contains some support to thinking from the textbook.
- A or B assignments are 2 or 3 paragraphs long and contains solid support from the assigned readings in the textbook, and demonstrates complex reasoning on your part.

The purpose of the assignments is to demonstrate that you have read and comprehend the textbook material and that you have interacted with it through reason and logic. Generally assignments will be graded within one week of their due date.

I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF ILLNESS OR FAMILY EMERGENCY. IF THAT IS THE CASE, CONTACT ME FOR PERMISSION TO TURN IN WORK LATE.

MAKEUP TESTS will be permitted, on a case-by-case basis, but must be completed within one week of the original test.

* Instructors have one week to provide feedback and post grades for all assignments unless otherwise noted by a departmental policy that has been approved by the Dean of the School.

**Academic Integrity**

It is expected that all students who attend UA-PTC conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the college experience. Academic integrity is a vital component of collegiate behavior. The UA-PTC catalogue states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.”

The catalogue also states, “The responsibility and authority of initiating discipline arising from violations of the rules against dishonesty during the process of the course are vested in the instructor of that course.” The complete Academic Integrity Policy is in the UA-PTC code of conduct. A couple of important points are below:

**Cheating** is dishonesty of any kind on examinations and written assignments, as well as any attempt to help another student do the same. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work as his/her own.”

**Plagiarism** is “offering the work of another as one’s own without proper acknowledgement. Therefore, any student fails to give appropriate credit for ideas or material he/she takes from another source, whether fellow student or a resource writer, is guilty of plagiarism.”

If the instructor determines cheating or plagiarism has occurred, the penalty for the first offence will be an automatic grade of 0 for that assignment or test. If there is a second such offense, the student will be given a “F” for the course.
**Accommodation Policy**
Services for Students with Disabilities: UA-PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the American with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Disability Services Office (Main Campus: 501-812-2738 or South Campus: 501-812-2862) and must provide current and relevant documentation.

Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course or as soon as accommodations are approved. It is the student's responsibility to provide their Accommodation Letter to the instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive and will only be provided once your instructor receives the Accommodation Letter.

**Student Code of Conduct**
All students are expected to abide by the UA-PTC Student Code of Conduct. For the full Student Code of Conduct, access the most current version of the UA-PTC Academic Catalog. [http://uaptc.azurewebsites.net/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2017-18-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=a08a3038_2](http://uaptc.azurewebsites.net/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2017-18-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=a08a3038_2)

**Sexual Misconduct**
No person at Pulaski Technical College will, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct under any education program or activity. All college administrative policies and procedures regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct are in compliance with Title IX. Students who feel they are victims of sexual misconduct should contact the UA-PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Director of Student Life and Leadership
Campus Center Building Room 216
501-812-2756
manderson@uaptc.edu

**Course Evaluations**
Students may be asked to evaluate their instructor and course near the end of the semester. These student evaluations are very important to the improvement in the quality of instruction and course materials. All results are anonymous and shared with the faculty only after the semester is over and grades have been posted.

**Information Literacy**
UA-PTC is committed to the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education as established by the Association of College and Research Libraries and endorsed by the National Forum on Information Literacy. Therefore, all courses will incorporate an information literacy component so that, by graduation, all students will be able to recognize the need for information, then locate, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information in an ethical manner. Information literacy encompasses critical thinking, research, media, technology, health, business, and visual literacy skills to produce lifelong learners who can make informed decisions in the workplace and in their personal lives.
Tentative Course Schedule
This course operates on a Monday-to-Sunday course week. Assignments are due no later than Sunday midnight each week. However, I encourage students to turn them in earlier in the week so they are not doing them in a hurry at the very end.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment or Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 9-13</td>
<td>Critical Thinking seminar and Assignment #1</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 14-20</td>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 21-27</td>
<td>Assignment #3</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jan 28-Feb 3</td>
<td>Assignment #4</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 4-10</td>
<td>Assignment #5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 11-17</td>
<td>Assignment #6</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 18-24</td>
<td>Assignment #7</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Feb 25-Mar 3</td>
<td>Assignment #8</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 4-10</td>
<td>Assignment #9</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 11-17</td>
<td>MID-TERM EXAM</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 18-24</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mar 25-31</td>
<td>Assignment #10</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 1-7</td>
<td>Assignment #11</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 8-14</td>
<td>Assignment #12</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 15-21</td>
<td>Assignment #13</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Apr 22-28</td>
<td>Assignment #14</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Apr 29-May 5</td>
<td>Assignment #15</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>May 6-10</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disclaimer: This schedule is a guide for the semester. The instructor reserves the right to amend the schedule as necessary.
Final Exam Schedule: The final exam will be open May 6-10. Please ensure that you have the use of a reliable computer and internet connection for the tests. If you have any doubts, please use the computers at the PTC library.