

## **Introduction to Natural Hazards and Disasters** **(5 credits Natural Science)**

GEOG106/GEOL 106

Welcome to Geography/Geology 106. This is a five-credit, natural science course that fulfills a Science distribution requirement for the Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS) Degree at Bellevue College. There are no prerequisites for this class.

The course satisfies **General Education Requirements** in the following areas:

**The Nature of Science:** Rating 3

**Science and the Natural World:** Rating 3

The course transfers as natural science credit. The class can be taken as Geography **OR** Geology credit to satisfy the College's distribution requirement in Sciences.

### **Course Description/Objectives:**

This is a survey course designed to introduce students to earth and atmospheric potential hazards as reflected or evidenced by actual catastrophes or disasters. The course will strive to elevate student awareness regarding dangerous interactions between earth processes and humans, as well as the interrelationships among potential disasters. In doing so, students may be able to make more informed/educated decisions such as determining the best site location for a future home purchase. Throughout the course Case Studies are used to aid in understanding the complexities of environmental policies, societal behaviors, and governmental responsibilities. Other than the textbook visuals, a variety of images will be used to enhance the delivery of course information.

My name is: **Doug Roselle**

Mailing address:

Geography Department  
Social Science Division/Room D110  
Bellevue College  
3000 Landerholm Circle SE  
Bellevue, WA 98007

Phone: (425) 564-2290

Division Office phone: (425) 564-2331

Distance Education Office: (425) 564-2438

Email: [droselle@bcc.ctc.edu](mailto:droselle@bcc.ctc.edu)

Office: **B100D**

### **Required Text:**

**Natural Hazards and Disasters: 4th edition**, Hyndman and Hyndman, 2014. Brooks/  
Cole CENGAGE Learning

Text can be rented from the College Bookstore for \$45.00.

**Format:**

The coursework is divided into **seven (7) Course Modules**.

**Course Modules:**

The modules are designed to follow the general format of chapter content in your textbook. The textbook, however, is best viewed as a support tool for your studies as there are additional resources – Online ***Class Notes, Articles and Images Section***. In addition, the end of Chapter ***Cases in Point*** will become an important component beginning with Chapter Three.

All of the online modules begin with ***Class Notes***. These notes will aid you to better understand the topics covered in the particular module. Often, I will provide my own personal images and experiences. **You should begin each module by reading the short introductory *Class Notes***. Then follow-up with the ***Articles and Images Section***.

The next step is to proceed through the ***Textbook Reading Assignments***. The instructions identify which chapters of the textbook you need to read to enable you to answer questions on both the Practice Exams and Module Exams and Final (Final is not comprehensive).

Questions will be taken from all of the above sections to be included in the Practice Quizzes, Module Exams and Final (Final is not comprehensive).

The last step in each module is the actual module exam. Having carefully read through and completed the ***Class Notes, Articles and Images, and Textbook Readings*** – and completed the ***Chapter Practice Quizzes***– you will then be prepared to take the respective module exam. To successfully complete the exams, it is imperative that you complete all of the ***Chapter Practice Quizzes***. All of the module exam questions are directly based on the ***Class Notes, Articles and Images, Text Readings and Cases in Point***. All exams are open book/note. Be aware that the module exams are time limited that is you will have a limited time to answer the module questions. You can only make ONE attempt and are allocated **60** minutes to complete the exam.

The Seven Modules are sequenced in the following order.

- Module 1:** Introduction to Natural Hazards and Disasters  
Fundamentals of Plate Tectonics and Associated Physical Hazards
- Module 2:** Earthquake Processes – Earthquake Predictions, Forecasts and Mitigation
- Module 3:** Tsunami
- Module 4:** Volcanoes: Tectonic Environments and Eruptions –Volcanoes: Hazards and Mitigation
- Module 5:** Landslides and Other Downslope Movements
- Module 6:** Stream and Flood Processes – Floods and Human Interactions
- Module 7:** Weather, Thunderstorms and Tornadoes – Hurricanes and Nor'easters

All of the modules have an open book/open note, **multiple-choice, true and false, matching** format online Exam. The seventh and last module will be material that you study for the online Final that is Weather Thunderstorms and Tornadoes – Hurricanes and Nor'easters. There is no comprehensive Final.

**Course Grading:** Total possible points including the Final is **300**. If you complete **ALL** of the **Chapter Practice Quizzes** by the closing date, then **five (5) Extra Credit points** will be added to your total accumulated points before determining your quarter grade. Therefore, with the extra credit your absolute maximum accumulated points will equal **305**. I have included the following table so that you can evaluate your grade at the end of the quarter.

#### **Grading Scale:**

|           |            |                 |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>A</b>  | <b>4.0</b> | <b>279-300</b>  |
| <b>A-</b> | <b>3.7</b> | <b>270-278</b>  |
| <b>B+</b> | <b>3.3</b> | <b>258-269</b>  |
| <b>B</b>  | <b>3.0</b> | <b>246-257</b>  |
| <b>B-</b> | <b>2.7</b> | <b>240-245</b>  |
| <b>C+</b> | <b>2.3</b> | <b>228-239</b>  |
| <b>C</b>  | <b>2.0</b> | <b>218-227</b>  |
| <b>C-</b> | <b>1.7</b> | <b>210-217</b>  |
| <b>D+</b> | <b>1.3</b> | <b>195-209</b>  |
| <b>D</b>  | <b>1.0</b> | <b>165-194</b>  |
| <b>F</b>  | <b>0.0</b> | <b>&lt; 165</b> |

#### **Participation:**

The student is responsible for:

1. the technical aspects of your computer/email/printer etc.  
Please refer to the BC Distance Education website for the Vista Tutorial and for minimum hardware requirements.  
The Distance Education Office telephone number is listed above.
2. reading the specified materials.
3. taking part in email discussions. Contacting me/fellow students can be helpful.
4. keeping comprehensive notes/diagrams/maps relevant to course topics.
5. Timely completions of the module exams.  
You should not leave exams to the last minute in case you have a technical problem this is a very important consideration.
6. reviewing the Bellevue College academic calendar  
posted at <http://distance-ed.bcc.ctc.edu> for all details regarding registration and withdrawal policy and procedures and distribution of final grades.
7. reading the Social Science Division's policy statement.
8. if special needs are necessary contacting Disability Support Services  
at (425) 564-2498

## **PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION SP 2014**

### Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

### Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

### F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

### Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

### Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

### Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

### Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

#### Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

#### Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline*