

GEOG/GEOL 106

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

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 text Case Studies are used to facilitate in understanding the complexities of environmental policies, societal behaviors, and governmental responsibilities. Other than the textbook visuals, a variety of images from numerous sources will be used to enhance the delivery of course information.

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Required Text: Natural Hazards and Disasters: 2nd edition, Hyndman and Hyndman, 2009. Brooks/ Cole CENGAGE Learning

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 - *Class Notes*, *Articles and Images*, and *Chapter Practice Quizzes* - that will need to be carefully studied to provide a foundation for this class.

All 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 introductory *Class Notes*.**

The next step is to read through the *Textbook Reading Assignment Section*. The instructions identify which chapters of the textbook you need to read to enable you to answer questions in the Chapter Practice Quizzes, Module Quizzes and Final.

Each Module has an *Articles and Images Section*. This is your next step. Carefully read through these articles and view the images. Questions will be taken from this section to be included in the Chapter Practice Quizzes, and Module Quizzes.

Having carefully read through and completed the *Class Notes*, *Textbook Readings*, and *Articles and Images Section*, you will then be prepared to attempt the respective *Chapter Practice Quiz*. Having successfully completed the Chapter Practice Quiz (quizzes) you are now ready to take the final step by taking the appropriate Module Quiz. Taking the Chapter Practice Quizzes will help prepare you for the respective module quiz. **The majority** of the module quiz questions are **directly** based on the *Textbook Readings*. In addition, a variety of questions will be taken from the Class Notes and from the Articles and Images. **All** quizzes are open book/note. **All** the online quizzes are multiple choice/true false formats. Be aware that the module quizzes 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 each module quiz.

The Seven (7) Modules and textbook readings are sequenced in the following order.

Module One: Chapter One and Chapter Two

Module Two: Chapter Three

Module Three: Chapter Four and Chapter Five

Module Four: Chapter Six and Chapter Seven

Module Five: Chapter Eight

Module Six: Chapter Eleven and Chapter Twelve

Module Seven: Chapter Fourteen and Chapter Fifteen

All seven (7) modules have an open book/open note, **multiple-choice**, and **true/false** online quiz. The seventh module quiz is the Final. The Final is not comprehensive. The Final must be taken by everyone.

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. I have included the following table so that you can evaluate your grade at the end of the quarter.

Grading Scale will be included in the updated syllabus starting the first day of the quarter.

Grading Scale:

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

Participation:

The student is responsible for:

1. the technical aspects of your computer/email/printer etc. □ Please refer to the Bellevue College 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 quizzes. □ You should not leave quizzes 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://bellevuecollege.edu/distance> 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

ONLINE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES □ OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION □ Revised Summer 2009

Bellevue College's Affirmation of Inclusion □ Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. □ The college's "Affirmation of Inclusion" is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In an online course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site rather than face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another through e-mails and e-discussions. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

Cheating, Stealing, and Plagiarizing* and Inappropriate Behavior

□ Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: plagiarizing material from the Internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the general applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the [Core Rules of Netiquette](#). The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of

Conduct to the Vice President 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 Vice President of Student Services, [link to Student Code](#).

Incomplete □ If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon actions. Vista class sites, and material, may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to make arrangements before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

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

Final Examination Schedule □ Final examinations may involve proctored on-campus arranged exams or may be administrated completely online at the discretion of the instructor and in keeping with the stated policies provided in the course syllabus. Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format 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 in compliance with 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 □ Academic Year: 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.

Summer Quarter: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the fifth week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). After the sixth day and through the end of the fifth week of the quarter, the "W" grade will become part of the student's transcript record.

Check [Enrollment Calendar Deadlines, Refunds/Withdrawals](#), for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

Hardship Withdrawal (HW) □ From page 9 of the current course catalog, [2008-2009 online catalog](#), HW indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. 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 contact the [Disability Resource Centre \(DRC\)](#). The office is **located in B132 (phone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110, email drc@bellevuecollege.edu)**. Students will need to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Distribution of Grades □ Students should access their grades through the BC Web site. Any returned material should be accessed prior to the end of the quarter. After the end of the quarter, Vista class sites may not be accessible by students. Individual instructors may use non-Vista tools for recording and maintaining the students' progress. Questions about grades assigned should be initially directed to your instructor.

Submission and Returning of Papers, Assignments and

Assessments: □ Specific guidelines for taking exams and submitting assignments are published in the syllabus. Please contact instructor at the start of the quarter for any clarifications.

Technical Assistance □ Vista-related or technical issues should be referred to [Distance Education](#). □ You may also email them at landerso@bellevuecollege.edu or □ call **425-564-2438 (1-877-641-2712)**. □ Vista tutorial help and basic instructions can be found at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/distance/studentguide/>

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Vice President of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*