

The Violent Face of Nature - Living with Natural Hazards

(5 credits Natural Science)

Geography 108

Winter 2020

Welcome to Geography 108. 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.

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Distance Education Office - phone: (425) 564-2438

Office – B106

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:30 on campus. Fridays from 12:00-2:00 online via Canvas Chat. I am also available to meet by appointment; please just send me a Canvas message and we can figure out a time to meet in person or online via Canvas Chat/Skype.

Please use the Canvas messaging system to reach me

If Canvas is down, my college email address is -

ian.walker@bellevuecollege.edu

Regarding email correspondence: I will answer your emails within 24 hours. I will most likely be able to reply sooner than 24 hours but please email me as early as possible and do not wait until the last minute for important conversations. I only check my email a couple times over the weekend so please try to contact me Monday- Friday.

Required Text:

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

Text can be rented from the College Bookstore or Amazon for around \$45.00. I highly recommend buying this exact edition, the 4th edition. Other editions will have similar material but this course was designed for the 4th edition (it is also a lot cheaper than other editions!).

Course Description/Objectives:

This is an introductory 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 human activity, as well as the interrelationships among potential disasters. In doing so, students may be able to make more informed/educated decisions. 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.

This course has been designed as a self-paced course. This means that you are responsible for completing all of the required work by the deadline date at the end of the quarter. I advise that you work diligently throughout the quarter and complete the work in a sensible manner and not leave a significant amount of work to the last week. The advantage of a self-paced course is that you are in charge of your progress and the major disadvantage is that some students do not set aside a designated amount of time every day/week to complete the set work. Please make sure that you keep on schedule.

All coursework is due March 18th, 2020 at 11:59 PM. No exceptions

Format:

The coursework is divided into **seven (7) Course Modules and five (5) Discussions.** **Each Course Module is accompanied by an exam**

Course Modules:

Please be patient and allow time for the modules to download - they are very large files. I would recommend downloading all of the files and then you will have easy access to them at any time. The files are in PDF form but I can get them to you as a Word document if needed, please just let me know

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. **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 the Module Exams

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 (the amount of time allotted for each exam varies)

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. There is no comprehensive Final. All exams are due **March 18th, 2019 at 11:59 PM**

Discussions:

There are 5 discussions, each worth 20 points. All discussions are due **March 18th, 2019 at 11:59 PM**. You will turn your discussions in through the Canvas site. Please click on "Discussions" on the left hand side for instructions regarding each discussion. You may do the discussions whenever you want (before the due date).

You do not need to reply to another student's post but if you do then you will receive 3 points of extra credit. Please note that you will only receive extra credit for one response per discussion. 5 discussions with one response each equals 15 possible extra credit points at the end of the quarter. Your response to another student's post must be at least 50 words.

Course Grading

400 points total. This consists of 7 exams (varying point totals) and 5 discussions (20 points each). If you complete the class evaluation, then this will earn you an additional 3 points toward your total score for the class. The details for completing the class evaluation will be given toward the end of the quarter.

400 Point Scale

A	93-100%	368-400
A-	90-92%	358-367
B+	88-89%	350-357
B	83-87%	330-349
B-	80-82%	318-329
C+	78-79%	310-317
C	73-77%	291-309
C-	70-72%	278-290
D+	68-69%	270-277
D	63-67%	238-269
F	0-59%	001-237

Late Work Policy

You have all quarter to complete the exams and discussions so late work will not be accepted under any circumstances. Technical issues are not a legitimate excuse for late work or missing work. It is your responsibility that you have a solid and secure internet connection as well as a computer/laptop to complete all coursework. Do not, I repeat do not, ever take an exam using your cell phone or tablet!!

Please note that all assignments are due at 11:59 PM on March 18th. This means they must be completed by 11:59 PM.

Plagiarism/Cheating

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will be dealt with accordingly. Any assignment that violates Bellevue College's rules of academic integrity will receive a '0' and may be reported to the appropriate Bellevue College authorities and that student will forfeit all extra credit in the class (this includes extra credit before and after the incident). Please be in touch with me if you are unsure of what constitutes this type of violation.

Technology Issues

Because this is an online course, having access to a reliable internet connection and suitable technological equipment is necessary. You have all quarter to complete the assignments so not having access to wifi or experiencing computer issues is not a valid reason for late or missing work. If you do not have access to a computer or wifi connection, the public library or the BC library has those resources for your use. Do NOT ever, under any circumstances turn assignments in through the app (iPad, iPhone or Android phone). I have heard from several students that they thought they completed something via the Canvas app but it did not submit. This will not be a valid excuse for missing or late work.

Assistance

I am here to help you and I want you to succeed in this class. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need assistance of any kind. It is always best to contact me earlier than later if you need assistance or guidance. Please note that under no circumstances will there be any "fudge points" or extra point opportunities that are not available to everyone. You are always welcome to come to my office during office hours or we can schedule a time to meet.

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 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. Coordinating with the Disability Resource Center for accommodations

Additional Bellevue College Resources and Information

Help with Canvas

Students can find help with Canvas by following the link here: [Student Canvas Help](#)

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

Accessibility

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

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 Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

[Affirmation of Inclusion](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/inclusion/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/inclusion/>)

Reasons of Faith and Conscience

Reasonable Accommodations for Reasons of Faith and Conscience: Students who will be absent from course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not impacted. Such requests must be made within the first two weeks of the course to the office of the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs (see Bellevue College [Policy 2950](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id2950/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id2950/>)). In the event you feel you are being discriminated against based on faith or conscience, you may refer to the procedures outlined in the college's [Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation Policy 1440P](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-1440p/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-1440p/>)).

Annual Notice Non-Discrimination

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; creed; color; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory,

mental, or physical disability; or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. Bellevue College is prohibited from discriminating in such a manner by college policy and by state and federal law. All college personnel and persons, vendors, and organizations with whom the college does business are required to comply with applicable federal and state statutes and regulations designed to promote affirmative action and equal opportunity.

Reports of gender and sex-based discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation by a student should be raised with the Title IX office (see 1440P2 for contact information). In cases where the impacted party is a student and the responding party is a college employee, the Title IX coordinator will direct the matter to the Office of Human Resources (HR). All other reports, including all reports where the impacted party is an employee, should be raised with the HR. If a report is against personnel in the Title IX office or HR, it should be submitted to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee.

[Equal Opportunity](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/equal/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/equal/>)

Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. relationship violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2641 and more information can be found at [Title IX](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/>).

If you have any concerns, you may report to: [Report Concerns](https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/reportconcerns/) (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/reportconcerns/>).

Student Conduct Code and Academic Integrity

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication, and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Conduct Code of Bellevue College. Examples of disruptive behavior include, but are not limited to, repeatedly talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Conduct Code to the Manager of Student Conduct for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Conduct Code at: [Student Code](#)

Important Links

See "[Important Links](#)" [page online](#) for more information about the E-mail and MyBC, Public Safety, the Academic Calendar, the Academic Success Center, and more.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with disabilities. Common disabilities include physical, neurological (e.g. Autism, ADD/ADHD), and mental health (e.g. depression, anxiety). If you are a student

who has a disability or if you think you may need accommodations in order to have equal access in your classes, programs, activities, and any other services, please contact the DRC.

If you require assistance in an emergency, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan for while in class and contact the DRC to develop a safety plan for while you are elsewhere on campus.

The DRC office is located in building B Room 132. You can contact the DRC by stopping by the office at B132, calling our front desk phone number (425) 564-2498, emailing drc@bellevuecollege.edu. Deaf students can reach us by calling TTY: (425) 564-6189, or by Skype (account name **DRCatBC**). For more information about the services we offer, including our Initial Access Application, visit our website at [Disability Resource Center](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc) (<http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc>).

Service Animals are allowed in this classroom. Emotional Support Animals need to be approved through the DRC. All other animals will be asked to leave. If you believe you need your animal with you, please connect with the DRC and refrain from bringing your animal until a decision has been made.

[Final Exam Schedule](#)

Additional Information

A note about accessing Canvas from the People's Republic of China: some users have reported that they do not have full access to all Canvas functionality from within the People's Republic of China. This appears to be due to Canvas' parent company, Instructure, not fully committing to Chinese government requirements regarding internet operations within the country. The Chinese government does not inform foreign entities of their policy updates; therefore, Bellevue College cannot anticipate access to Canvas.

If you will be in China during the quarter, you should prepare for intermittent and uncertain access to Canvas.

Source: [Access to Canvas in China](https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/kb/article/1157-access-to-canvas-in-china/) (<https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/kb/article/1157-access-to-canvas-in-china/>)