



Online Physical Geography (Geography 221)

University of Regina

Objectives for Innovation

Web-based instruction

Intended Audience

Upper year undergraduate students in geography and other degree programs

Results Achieved

Online upper year university-credit course

Environmental databases and digital images such as photographs, diagrams, satellite images and maps to illustrate concepts and constructs

Flexible access for students across Canada

Partners

Southeast Distance Education Project, Canadian Heritage, Environment Canada, Geological Survey of Canada

Implementation

September 1999

Additional Benefits

Students from across Saskatchewan and one from British Columbia enrolled in first class

Students value “access around my weekly schedule . . . very flexible” and the opportunity to “gain computer skills and knowledge”

Instructor valued working with an instructional designer

This program provides an online version of an upper year university-credit course in physical geography using software for designing and delivering interactive courses over the World Wide Web. It builds upon the web-based resources developed as part of the Earth and Environmental Science program to support on-campus instruction.

All course material, including the course outline, lecture notes, study questions, lab assignments, quizzes and final exam, is available at the course web site. The detailed lecture notes connect concepts and constructs to environmental databases and digital photographs, diagrams, satellite images, maps and related web sites maintained by other universities, government agencies, individual researchers and research teams. Students communicate with each other and the instructor through private e-mail and bulletin board facilities also provided on the web site.

Geography 221 introduces students to the physical basis of geography, including climate, landforms, and the geography of water, soil and plants. It emphasizes processes that account for the earth's natural landscapes and their geographic variability.

Links to the environmental databases and images ensure access to resources essential for the course.

The online version of Geography 221 is available anywhere to students who cannot attend regular on-campus courses.

Contact

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