Instructor: Dr. Sarah Null  
Email: sarah.null@usu.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 via Zoom:  
https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/7554968132?pwd=ZUpheDc2ZkZ2cmc2TWtICGlMOTlyZz09

TA: Greg Goodrum  
Email: greg.goodrum@usu.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 via Zoom:  
https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/92700252558?pwd=Ump3bE9I9GU0cFVJSHBGNDZUUEFzZz09

Class time and location
Mondays 1:30 – 2:20 pm online using Zoom. On days with field trips (Oct 5, Oct 19, Nov 2, and Nov 16), we will meet in person (location TBA) from 1:30 – 4:20 pm and all participants will be required to wear face coverings.

Course Website: Canvas (https://canvas.usu.edu/)
Course Materials: Posted to Canvas and handed out on field trips, as needed

Course Objectives
- Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
- Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.
- Learning appropriate methods for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting numerical information.

About Physical Geography Laboratory
Physical geography is an interdisciplinary natural science that explores Earth’s systems (the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere) and the linkages between them. It is the science concerned with the interaction of the physical elements and processes that make up the environment: energy, air, water, weather, climate, landforms, soils, animals, plants, microorganisms, and Earth. Students in the course will gain understanding of how the physical and natural world surrounding them works through laboratory exercises, field trips, data collection and analysis.

Course Fees
Fees are $40/student for this laboratory course and cover transportation to and from field trips, and field trip / laboratory supplies and materials.
## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Topic/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Class introduction, syllabus, introduction to geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Labor day, no class</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 14</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>GPS and geographic coordinate systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 21</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Mapping and geographic information science (GIS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 28</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Atmospheric processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>2 hrs</td>
<td>USU Climate Center field trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>The hydrologic cycle, water in the lithosphere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Watershed sciences field trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Land forms, weathering, geomorphology</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Geomorphology field trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Biogeography and soils</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Biogeography field trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
<td>Work on group projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec 7</td>
<td>~2 hrs</td>
<td>Final Group Presentations</td>
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</tbody>
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## Grading

**Class Participation (30%)** – This is a small, hands-on course where attendance and participation are essential. Students are expected to actively listen and participate, engage in discussions, complete lab assignments, and ask questions. Field trip attendance is required.

**Lab Assignments (40%)** – Lab assignments will be given with most labs. Lab assignments are due at the start of the following lab (1 week later).

**Final Presentations (30%)** – In class on December 7th. Instructions and a grading rubric will be posted later in the semester.

Attaining 90% will guarantee an A-, 80% a B-, 70% a C-, and 60% a D-.

## Absences and Illness

Missed labs, field trips, assignments, and presentations are excused for emergencies, sickness, or excused absences (e.g., coach’s letter for athletes...). **If you do not feel well, please do not attend in person field trips or meet with students, TAs, or instructors. An effort will be made to allow you to make up field trips on your own.**

If you have had a positive COVID-19 test, or have been asked to quarantine or isolate because of possible exposure to someone who has COVID-19, please contact the Instructor and TA to discuss accommodations to complete assignments and finish the course.
Zoom Instructions
Join class on Mondays at 1:30 pm using the embedded Zoom link and password in canvas (click on the Zoom link on the left side of the site).
- Downloading and testing the Zoom meeting app ahead of time is recommended. You can download it here: https://zoom.us/download.
- Alternatively, you will be prompted to download Zoom when you try to join the meeting (but give yourself plenty of extra time to join by 1:30 pm).
- Please login somewhere with your camera on and without distractions so that you can be fully engaged in and make the most of the online class.

COVID-19 Classroom Protocols
To provide some face-to-face instruction and to limit the spread of COVID-19 during the pandemic, face coverings are required on all field trips (including van rides), group laboratory assignments, and when meeting in person with the TA / Instructor. These protocols are based on CDC, state, and local health department guidelines and requirements are in place not only for your safety but also the safety of the entire campus community.

Students will not be permitted to attend in person course activities without a face covering, as per University Policy 20T.3. Students that do not adhere to the face covering policy will be referred to the Office of Vice President for Student Affairs for a possible violation of the Student Code of Conduct. There may be individual medical circumstances that prevent some students from using face coverings. If you require this exemption, contact the Disability Resource Center prior to the start of classes to investigate alternative instruction. These circumstances will be rare, but if they do exist, we ask that everyone be respectful.

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Stay home when you are sick, however mild your symptoms.

Academic Integrity
The University expects that students and faculty alike maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University (Student Conduct) addresses academic integrity and honesty and notes the following:
- Academic Integrity: Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the University by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty and by reporting all violations or suspected violations of the Academic Integrity Standard to their instructors.
- The Honor Pledge: To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: "I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity". Violations of the Academic
Integrity Standard (academic violations) include, but are not limited to cheating, falsification, and plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes knowingly "representing by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials." The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include warning or reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, and referral to psychological counseling.

**Sexual Harassment**

Utah State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free from acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination and to fostering respect and dignity for all members of the USU community. Title IX and USU Policy 339 address sexual harassment in the workplace and academic setting.

The university responds promptly upon learning of any form of possible discrimination or sexual misconduct. Any individual may contact USU’s Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity (AA/E0) Office for available options and resources or clarification. The university has established a complaint procedure to handle all types of discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment (USU Policy 305), and has designated the AA/E0 Director/Title IX Coordinator as the official responsible for receiving and investigating complaints of sexual harassment.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, 435-797-2444, drc@usu.edu). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

**Mental Health, Stress Management, Feeling Isolated**

Mental health is critically important for the success of USU students. As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. Utah State University provides free services for students to assist them with addressing these and other concerns. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).
Students are also encouraged to download the “SafeUT App” to their smartphones. The SafeUT application is a 24/7 statewide crisis text and tip service that provides real-time crisis intervention to students through texting and a confidential tip program that can help anyone with emotional crises, bullying, relationship problems, mental health, or suicide related issues.