COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

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General Education Outcomes reviewed: Dave Rudakewich Date: March 23, 2001
Status: Permanent

A. Identification:

1. Subject Area: Geography
2. Course Number: GEO 131
3. Course Title: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY
4. Credit Hrs: 4
5. Catalog Description:
   Natural processes of weather, climate, hydrology, ecology, geology and tectonics, diastrophism, volcanism, denudation, soils, glaciation, and costal processes emphasizing geographic distribution. General Education: Lab Sciences. Three lecture; three lab.

B. Course Goals:

This course will provide a survey of Earth's physical geography, the components of that geography, the forces which shape that geography, and the theories which explain the geography.

C. Course Outcomes:

Students will:

1. Describe and explain the Earth's physical geography and its components;
2. Identify analyze and evaluate the theories and interpretations concerning physical geography and the forces at work therein;.
3. Employ the theories and concepts of physical geography to develop an interrelated explanation of the Earth's physical geography;
4. Successfully complete laboratory exercise concerning physical geography through the application of the theories and concepts of physical geography and the scientific method;
5. Apply the theories and concepts of physical geography to local and global issues.

D. Course Outcomes Assessment:

Will include:

1. Presentation or discussion of listed outcomes in clear written or oral form
2. Written laboratory exercise

E. Course Content:

Will include:

1. Methods for making physical measurements in the realm of air, water and land.
2. Physical forces that affect planet Earth:
   a. orbital
   b. plate tectonics
   c. ocean thermal properties
   d. magnetism
   e. sub-surface geology
3. Climatic patterns and forces which shape climatic pattern introducing distribution of climates.
4. Vegetation, soil systems and the underlying geology and the forces which shape their interaction.
5. Tectonics, orogenic, sentitation, and erosion and their effects on surface configuration.