

Syllabus— ENVS 104

Earthquakes, Hurricanes, and Other Natural Disasters

Instructor: Dr. Chip Fox
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Office: S-262
Hours: Daily 10–11
& Lots of other times

Text: Abbott, Patrick L. (2008) Natural Disasters, 6th. ed., Boston: McGraw–Hill

Course Description:

A study of a wide variety of natural disasters and hazards, their causes, and their impacts on human populations and nature. Included are meteorological, geological, biological, cosmological, and human-made hazards.

Class Meets: Wednesday, 4:30–7:10, Sci 135
Lab: Wednesday, 1:00–3:00
Thursday, 1:00–3:00

Student

Requirements:

- Attend all sessions. More than three unexcused absences may result in a drop of one letter grade. Four or more absences may result in being dropped from the course.
 - Actively participate in and complete all lab assignments and exercises and all homework assignments.
 - Successfully pass two mid-term exams and a comprehensive final.
 - Complete two research papers, each involving a case study on a natural disaster. Each paper is to consist of 3 pages minimum plus a reference page with at least four good references that are used in your paper. The papers must use standard margins & font, be well referenced, typed, and stapled together. DO NOT USE REPORT COVERS. Each paper is worth 25 points divided as follows
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Properly referenced (10) | (4) Mechanics (grammar, spelling, |
| (2) Paper in on time (5) | length, normal font, etc) (5) |
| (3) Topic well researched (5) | |
- Present one of your papers in class during the week before finals.

Evaluation:

2 Mid-term Exams	200 Points
Comprehensive Final Exam	100
2 Papers @ 25 each	50
Lab	50

Total 400 Points

Topical Syllabus

Week		Chapters
<u>Meteorological Hazards</u>		
1.	Overview of Natural Disasters	1
2.	Primer on Meteorology	11 & 12
3.	Primer on Meteorology	11&12
4.	Hurricanes and Tornadoes EXAM I	12 & 13
5.	Floods	14
6.	Droughts and wildfires	12 & 15
<u>Geologic Hazards</u>		
7.	Primer on Plate Tectonics	3
8.	Earthquakes	4, 6, & 7
9.	Volcanoes EXAM II	8 & 9
10.	Tsunami	5
11.	Mass wasting	10
12.	Coastal Erosion	X
<u>Biological Hazards</u>		
13.	Invasive Species	X
14.	Pests hazards — locust plagues, disease	X
<u>Cosmological and Human-Made Hazards</u>		
15.	Meteorites / Pollution Disasters	17
16.	FINAL EXAM	

Caveats Box

Disabilities — Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. For more information, please contact the office of Advisement Services, BA 314, 903-886-5133.

Behavior — All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. Students who are disruptive to class activities will be dropped from the class and may face further disciplinary action.

Plagiarism — Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Unreferenced copying of material, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles can result in a score of zero for your assignment and may result in further disciplinary action.