

COURSE SYLLABUS (January 8, 2007)

Geography of Utah

Geography 3600-001 — Spring 2007

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:35 – 5:50 pm, OSH 238

Instructor: Genevieve Atwood, Ph.D.

Office hours (encouraged!!): the hour before class (3:30-4:30PM); Fridays 10AM-1PM; and by appointment, OSH 172.

Contacts: genevieve.atwood@geog.utah.edu and 534-1896. No office phone.

Credit Hours: 3. **Last day to drop:** January 17, 2007 **Last day to withdraw:** March 2, 2007

Class Website: <http://www.geog.utah.edu/courses/geog3600> for schedule, session outlines, posting of homework assignments, announcements. Use WebCT only for basic course information, to track grades, and for links to the library. Otherwise, use the class website.

Required text: Hamblin, W. K. (2004). *Beyond the Visible Landscape: Aerial Panoramas of Utah's Geology*. Provo, UT: BYU Geology.

Course catalogue listing: *Geography 3600. Geography of Utah (3) Fulfills Social/Behavioral Science Exploration. This course explores the human and physical phenomena that make Utah distinctive. Lectures and labs examine webs of relationships among Utah's people, places, and environments. Students use histories of Utah communities to examine influences of contrasting physical and social environments.*

Learning objectives and course approach:

Geog3600, Geography of Utah presents information about Utah's physical geography including topography, geology, hydrology, biology and climate; and about Utah's human geography including pre-historic peoples, present population demographics, and historical trends. The course takes an Earth systems approach recognizing relationships among the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and anthrosphere. Students analyze how webs of Earth-systems relationships have made Utah's physical and human geography distinctive and how Utah's distinctive physical and human geographies have influenced the history and economy of the state. Students should gain a sense of place for Utah and an appreciation of Utah's peoples, places, and environments.

Lectures present information about the state's physical and human geographies. In-class exercises and homework assignments summarize information from the lectures, develop skills of map representations, include thought questions to analyze relationships, and apply geographic concepts. Map exercises become the core of the student's Atlas of Utah. In lieu of a final exam, the course final project is a report on self-guided geographic excursions. Students meet with the instructor during finals week to discuss their excursions report.

Expected Time Commitment:

In accordance with university, school, and department policies, as this is a 3-credit class and the expectation is that homework will take 1-2 hours per class session. Most homework assignments are begun in class and completed before the next class session. The final project, self-guided excursions, takes a few days of travel within Salt Lake County plus two trips outside Salt Lake County. The trips beyond Salt Lake County can be as far as the state's borders, or, for example, to Canyonlands (Grand and San Juan Counties), or St George (Washington County), or as close as Bountiful (Davis County), or Alpine (Utah County), or Parley's Summit (Summit County).

Course Requirements and Grading Evaluation		
Pre- and post-course self evaluations (not graded)	2 @ 1	2%
Map exercises	15 @ 3	45%
Thought questions and more subjective assignments	9 @ 2	18%
Atlas (map exercises are the bulk of the Atlas)		5%
Midterm		15%
Excursions report		15%
Total		100%

Grading: Grades (above) are calculated on a curve only for an upward curve.

University of Utah, Department of Geography, and class policies.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties may include failure of an assignment, the entire course, and/or the filing of formal charges with appropriate university authorities. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, and plagiarism:

- Cheating involves the unauthorized possession or use of information in an academic exercise, including unauthorized communication with another person during an exercise such as an examination.
- Misrepresenting one’s work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one’s own work or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of all instructors.
- Plagiarism means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person’s work in one’s own work offered for academic consideration or public presentation.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Student Responsibility:

Paperwork is generally the responsibility of the student. If you have problems with the course, I encourage you to take advantage of office hours. Don’t hesitate to email me or even to telephone me at home. I work mostly off-campus but it is easy for me to come to campus to meet with you.

Respect:

Geography of Utah includes class discussions. Students should be considerate and respectful of others perspectives as they express opinions. Please be open with the instructor if you feel discussions have been inappropriate.

Attached and linked on course website: SCHEDULE and LIST OF ASSIGNMENTS.

Go to: <http://www.geog.utah.edu/courses/geog3600>