

## *Introduction to Physical Geography – Lab*

GARP 0102 (WF 10:25 to 12:05, Bates 05)

The Physical Geography Lab builds on your knowledge of Physical Geography developed through class lectures, the study of your textbook, and the series of homework assignments. Here you can put your knowledge to use in solving problems that are based on topics addressed in the lecture. Some of the lab exercises also reach out into new directions and explore topics not covered in the lecture or textbook. We will also spend time, as needed, to review material, answer questions, and discuss geography-related news items.

- There is no formal lab manual for this class. Instead, the weekly exercises and related assignments will be distributed at the start of each lab period.
- All lab exercises and assignments must be completed during the respective lab session (unless explicitly stated otherwise).
- I encourage you to work together with a partner on the lab exercises. However, you are each responsible in the end for your own work.
- Attendance is mandatory as we meet only once every week. Therefore, missing lab (for any reason) leaves you with a considerable gap in your learning process.
- No make-up labs (see grading policy).
- If you feel that you are not progressing as well as you hoped, please feel free to talk to me. The sooner the better! Please do not wait until the end of the semester.
- Please bring each week: notebook, 3-ring binder, ruler, calculator, pencils, etc.

### Some Details

- No lab in Week 1, Week 9, and Week 13.
- The last two labs (Week 14 and Week 15) are outdoor labs.  
We will explore the physical geography in the immediate vicinity of Westfield State College and Stanley Park. Please dress appropriately for about 1 hour of easy trail hiking: NO flip flops or sandals – you will not be allowed to participate in the outdoor labs!
- Our All-Day Field Trip on 5/5/2010 counts as a the Week 16 lab (i.e. no additional lab meetings that week).

➔ Please consult with me in advance if you have any concerns about participating in the outdoor labs or field trip – we can always create an alternative lab exercise or assignment if necessary.

➔ Adjustments to the lab schedule and lab exercises may be required to account for unforeseeable or unavoidable situations during the semester, for example inclement weather during outdoor labs.

### Lab Grading

Each lab exercise (n = 13) is graded. The mean of the 13 grades will be your lab grade and contributes 25 percent to your final course grade (see lecture syllabus for more grading details).

## GARP 0102 Physical Geography Spring 2010 Lab Schedule

Week	Lab	Dates	Theme(s)
Week 1		1/20, 1/22	<i>No Lab</i>
Week 2	Lab #1	1/27, 1/29	Topographic Maps Location, Scale, Elevation, and Generalization
Week 3	Lab #2	2/3, 2/5	The Earth in Space: The Distribution of Insolation
Week 4	Lab #3	2/10, 2/12	Earth's Radiation Balance: Variations in Time and Space
Week 5	Lab #4	2/17, 2/19	Hurricane Katrina: Air Pressure and Wind Speed Variations
Week 6	Lab #5	2/24, 2/26	The Science of Climate Change and Global Warming: Past, Present, and Future
Week 7	Lab #6	3/3, 3/5	Moisture, Condensation, and Clouds: Why does it rain and where?
Week 8	Lab #7	3/10, 3/12	Weather Forecasting and Climate in the Mid-Latitudes
Week 9		3/17, 3/19	<i>No Lab (Spring Break)</i>
Week 10	Lab #8	3/24, 3/26	New England Geography: The last 200 million years
Week 11	Lab #9	3/31, 4/2	Extreme Physical Geography: Glaciers and Volcanoes in Iceland
Week 12	Lab #10	4/7, 4/9	The Quabbin Reservoir: Water Supply for Metro Boston
Week 13		4/14, 4/16	<i>No Lab (CB @ AAG Meeting)</i>
Week 14	Lab #11	4/21, 4/23	Environment, Ecology, and Climate around Westfield State College (outdoor lab)
Week 15	Lab #12	4/28, 4/30	Fluvial Processes and Streamflow: The Little River, Stanley Park (outdoor lab)
Week 16	Lab #13	5/5	<i>Field Trip = Lab</i>