

San José State University
College of Social Science/Environmental Studies Department
ENVS 189, Coastal Field Studies, Spring 2020 (24150)

Course and Contact Information

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1) be able to identify and describe the natural processes that shape and influence coastlines and associated human and natural communities.
- 2) be able to explain how human society and technology impact coastal environments, natural communities, and biodiversity, and will be able to evaluate the consequences of these human impacts.
- 3) be able to describe basic coastal policy, current coastal conservation efforts, and techniques for adapting to future coastal changes.
- 4) research and write a paper, using primary sources, about a specific topic or site along the California coast.

Information Literacy Learning Outcomes (ILLO)

- 1) An information-literate student determines the nature and extent of the information needed. The information literate student defines and articulates the need for information, as well as identifies a variety of types and formats of potential sources for information.
- 2) An information-literate student evaluates information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his/her knowledge base. Students summarize the main ideas to be extracted from the information gathered, articulates and applies criteria for evaluating both the information and its sources, and synthesizes main ideas to construct new concepts.
- 3) An information-literate student understands the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.

Required Materials

Texts

Griggs, Gary. 2010. Introduction to California's Beaches and Coast. UC Press.
Griggs, Gary. 2017. Coasts in Crisis: A Global Challenge. UC Press.

Both available at Spartan Bookstore and on Amazon.com.

Other Readings

Additional assigned readings will be provided on Canvas.

Other equipment / material

You will need access to a computer with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint and the Internet. Be sure to bring pencil and/or pens with blue or black ink and paper to every class, even if you take notes on a laptop. For field trips, you will need transportation to and from field locations, as well as a field notebook.

Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera (peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2034) is the Library Liaison for the Department of Environmental Studies. She is a great resource who is available at the Reference Desk in MLK Library Wednesdays 3-5pm, or by appointment.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Exam

A final exam will include material from lectures, readings, films, field trips, activities, and student presentations.

Canvas Instructions

For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. All take home assignments must be turned in through the Canvas learning management system, unless otherwise noted. If you have trouble with this, please come see me during class or office hours.

Assignments

Weekly Quiz: At the beginning of each class meeting a short quiz or activity will be given covering readings, lectures, previous field trips, class discussions, films, or any other class material. The quiz will be followed by a discussion of the readings. In order to prepare for the quizzes it is essential that readings be done before class. **No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason.**

Field Journal

Formatting

Please note that all assignments need to be formatted as follows: 12 point font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins, doubled spaced, and include a header with name and date. Use Chicago/Turabian author-date style for all citations. A 10% deduction will occur for not following these guidelines.

Grading Policy

Your grade will be based on your exams, assignments, and class participation. All assignments are to be turned in through Canvas before the specified due date and time or at the beginning of the due date class unless otherwise indicated.

Grade Scale

97%-100% = A+	93% - 96% = A	90% - 92% = A-
87% - 89% = B+	83% - 86% = B	80% - 82% = B-
77% - 79% = C+	73% - 76% = C	70% - 72% = C-
60% - 69% = D	less than 60% = F	

Late Work

All assignments are due BEFORE 9:30am on the due date listed in the course calendar. Late work is NOT accepted.

Field Trip Protocol

There will be 9-12 scheduled field trips that are each approximately 4-5 hours. Field trip locations will range from Half Moon Bay to Big Sur and can be 60-90 minutes from San José State. Students are responsible for transportation to and from each field trip. Car-pooling is highly recommended. You must arrive on time and be prepared to actively participate. Be sure to bring your field journal and pencil, lunch/snacks, water, and appropriate layered clothing and shoes as the weather may change throughout the day. You may also want to bring sunscreen/hat/sunglasses and a camera.

During field trips, students are expected to act responsibly and to be respectful of the environment, each other, other visitors, the instructor, and any guest speakers. No electronics are to be used except cameras when appropriate.