

### Basic Course Information

Semester	<b>Spring 2017</b>	Instructor's Name	<b>Austen Thelen</b>
Course Title & #	<b>California Geography: GEOG 140</b>	Instructor's Email	<b>austen.thelen@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #	<b>21112</b>		
Room	<b>Online (Canvas)</b>	Office	807F
Class Dates	<b>February 13 – June 9</b>	Office Hours (n/a for PT Faculty)	<b>Mondays and Wednesdays (live) 10:15-11:15; Tuesdays and Thursdays (online) 1:00pm -2:00pm</b>
Class Days	<b>Every Day</b>	Office Phone #	<b>(760) 355-6537</b>
Class Times	<b>Always Accessible, 3 Units</b>	Who students should contact if emergency or other absence	<b>Elvia M. Camillo Staff Secretary Behavioral &amp; Social Science Department Imperial Valley College 380E. Aten Rd. Imperial, CA 92251 (760) 355-6144</b>
Units			

### Course Description

This course thematically covers various issues faced by the state of California that are relevant to the discipline of geography, including water resources, vegetation patterns, landforms and geomorphology, climate, agriculture, cultural landscapes, ethnic diversity, urbanization and economic patterns. Special attention is paid to human-environment interactions that have resulted in the formation of California's unique human and cultural landscapes. (CSU, UC)

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Analyze the physical processes that shape California's natural environments.
2. Evaluate the use of natural resources in California in the development of both the state's human and physical landscapes.
3. Identify the origins, placement and future trends of California's economy, including agriculture, industry and services

### Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Examine the physical processes that shape California's natural environments.
2. Analyze the use of natural resources, especially water, within California as they apply to the state's economic and cultural development.
3. Analyze the influence of California's various ethnic groups in terms of their roles in shaping the state's cultural landscapes.
4. Evaluate the origins and development of industry and agriculture in California.

5. Compare patterns of urban development in California and evaluate current and future trends in urbanization.

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

William A. Selby 2012. *Rediscovering the Golden State - California Geography 3*. Hoboken . Wiley ISBN: 978-1-118-45204-2.

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Discussions

Group Activity

Lecture

Distance Learning

Audio Visual

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Midterm Exam: 100 points.

Final Exam: 100 points.

Quizzes: 11 quizzes worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Current Event Reports: 4 reports worth 20 points each – 80 points

Discussion Forums: 11 discussion boards worth 10 points each – 110 points.

Student's Final Grades are based on 500 total points, figured by the following breakdown:

450-500 points – A.

400- 449 points – B.

350 – 399 points – C.

300 – 349 points – D.

299 points or fewer – F.

Late Assignments Policy: Any assignment in this course may be submitted after its due date, up until 11:59 pm on the last day of the course for up to 80% credit.

### Attendance

**Students must log in to the course Canvas page within 5 days of the beginning of the semester (or late registration), or they will be automatically dropped from the course.**

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

### Classroom Etiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].
- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. **Consider**: specifics for your class/program
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

### Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment ;(c) communicating test information

with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment, (e) use of a commercial term paper service

### Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- **Learning Labs:** There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- **Library Services:** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

### Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. If you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations, the DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313.

### Student Counseling and Health Services

**Required Language:** Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

### Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at

[http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762](http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762)

### Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

### Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1: February 13 - 18	Syllabus & Introduction	Acquire course materials, become familiar with Canvas and the course, attend optional live orientation
Week 2: February 19 - 26	Module 1: California Regions and Basics	Read Chapter 1; <b>Complete Module 1 Quiz and Discussion 1 by 11:59 pm on February 26</b>
Week 3: February 27 - March 5	Module 2: California Physical Geography Over Time	Read Chapters 2; <b>Complete Module 2 Quiz and Discussion 2 by 11:59 pm on March 5</b>

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Week 4: March 6 – March 12	Module 3: California Geomorphology	Read Chapter 3; <b>Complete Module 3 Quiz, Discussion 3 by 11:59pm on March 12</b>
Week 5: March 13 – 19	Module 4: Climates of California	Read Chapter 4; <b>complete Module 4 Quiz, Discussion 4; Current Event Report 1 by 11:59 on March 19</b>
Week 6: March 20 – 26	Module 5: California’s Biogeography	Read Chapter 5; <b>Module 5 Quiz; Discussion 5 due by 11:59 pm on March 26</b>
Week 7: March 27 – April 2	Module 6: Hydrology in California	Read Chapter 6; <b>Module 6 Quiz, and Discussion 6; Current Event Report 2 by 11:59 pm on April 2</b>
Week 8: April 3 - 9	Review Week	
Week 9: April 10 – April 16	Mid-Term Exam	<b>Mid-Term due April 16 at 11:59 pm</b>
Week 10: April 17 – 23	Spring Break	
Week 11: April 24 – 30	Module 7: California Population Dynamics and Migration Patterns	Read Chapter 7; <b>Complete Module 7 Quiz and Discussion 7; Current Event Report 3 by 11:59 pm on April 30</b>
Week 12: May 1-7	Module 8: Cultural Diversity in California	Read Chapter 8; <b>Module 8 Quiz, Discussion 8 due by 11:59pm on May 7</b>
Week 13: May 8 - 14	Module 9: Primary Industry in California	Read Chapter 9; <b>Module 9 Quiz, Discussion 9 due by 11:59pm on May 14</b>
Week 14: May 15 - 21	Module 10: Tech and Services in California	Read Chapter 10; <b>Module 10 Quiz, Discussion 10; Current Event Report 4 by 11:59pm on May 21</b>
Week 15: May 22 – May 28	Module 11: California’s Urban Geography	Read Chapter 11; <b>Module 11 Quiz, Discussion 11 due by 11:59pm on May 28</b>
Week 16: May 29 – June 4	Review Week	
Week 17: June 5 – 9	Final Exam	<b>Final Exam Due Friday, June 9 at 11:59</b>