

Classroom: Env 391

Instructor: Dr. Yuting Li

Email: yuting.li@unt.edu

Office: ENV 310R

Virtual office hours: T TH 10:00 am – 10:30 am (zoom) or by appointment

Access to virtual office hour is through the zoom link on Canvas course page during the above times.

Recommended Textbook (not required)

Essentials of Oceanography by Trujillo and Thurman (12th or 13th edition, Pearson)

Supplementary open source books:

Introduction to Oceanography by Paul Webb <https://rwu.pressbooks.pub/webboceanography/>

Broad Course Goals

This course is designed to present an integrated overview of the principles and concepts of the world's oceans. Understand the structure, origins, and processes operating in the world's oceans, recognizing how they (and the science of oceanography) are defined by interactions among geology, chemistry, physics, and biology. Gain awareness of how the oceans relate to land, climate, and human and economic issues, as well as the impacts of humans on ocean life, environments, and global society. Topics of current interest (global warming, El Niño, coastal development, fisheries, introduced species, resumption of whaling, coral bleaching, and hydrothermal vents) are presented throughout the course. Films and in-class demonstrations and discussions emphasize reading and lecture material.

Format, Structure, and Expectations

We will make daily use of the UNT Canvas system, especially for course announcements, ancillary materials and web links, and grading. Lecture slides will be uploaded onto Canvas after each class. Office hour is held virtually through zoom. All the homework and exams are online through Canvas.

Attendance/Absences

Students are expected to be present at every meeting of this class. Only the instructor can excuse a student from a course requirement or responsibility.

When conflicts or absences can be anticipated, such as for many university sponsored activities and religious observations, the student should inform the instructor of the situation as far in advance as possible, and provide the regular documentation. For unanticipated or emergency absences when advance notification to an instructor is not possible, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible by email.

Email Policy

- When you email, **please make sure to use “GEOG 4260” in subject line** and sign message with your full name. This will help me tremendously in locating and responding to your emails quickly.
- You should email me if an emergency arises and you will miss your lecture or exam.

Grade breakdown

Attendance	10 pts each (10*10 = 100 pts in total)
Homework on Canvas	20 pts each (20*8+40pts = 200 pts in total)
Final Debate	100 pts
3 “in-class” Exams on Canvas	100 pts each (3*100 = 300 pts in total)
1 Optional Cumulative Final Exam	100 pts

Your Final Grade is based on 700 pts (100+200+100+300)

No make ups! (If you have a conflict, contact Dr. Li as early as possible)

Class Attendance:

- Starting from Week 2, twelve class attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester.
- 10 pts each, 10 out of the 12 count. Therefore, you may miss 2 classes before it starts to affect the grade.
- No make-up attendance.
- Emergencies that result in your absence should be emailed with appropriate documentation as far as in advance as possible.

Online Homework:

- Assigned on *Canvas*. 20 pts each (Homework 8 is 40 pts), 9 homework in total.
- Regular Homework: 8–10 questions in each homework, multiple format (multiple choice, matching, True/False). Two attempts will be given to answer each homework question to ensure full understanding of the material. Only best score is recorded.
- Summary Assignment/Essay Assignment: details will be posted on Canvas.
- Each week’s homework will be posted on Monday at 12:00 AM CDT and will be due on Friday of that week at 11:59 PM CDT. Homework 8 lasts for two weeks.
- Late homework will NOT be accepted.

Final Debate Project (100 pts):

- Form groups of 3 or 4 students in each team, debate a current topic of oceanographic importance, and present this to the rest of the class.
- More details of the requirements will be provided in class.

3 In-class Exams (100 pts each)

- Assigned on Canvas. Not comprehensive (only test on materials covered in each module).
- Each contains ~50 questions (multiple choice, matching, True/False).
- Timed, you will have 80 minutes to complete each exam. Once you start an exam, the countdown clock starts, so be sure to complete it within that 80 minutes of when you first started. If you are kicked offline, you will need to log back in ASAP. Please plan ahead and secure a quiet space with a **STRONG AND RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION**.
- Only one attempt is allowed for each exam.
- Each in-class exam will be available at 12:00 AM CDT on the scheduled class day and is due at 11:59 PM CDT on the same day. You have to complete the exam during this 24-hour window.
- There will be review sessions. Review slides will be posted.
- Even though exams are taken online through Canvas, all exams are to be taken closed book/closed note and on an individual (not group) basis.

- Late exams will NOT be accepted.

You must take the exams by yourself. Do not share information about them with anyone else. Please be aware, Canvas has extensive cheating and plagiarism detection capability. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are completely unacceptable and have dire consequences (see section on academic dishonesty below).

1 Optional Cumulative Final Exam (100 pts)

- The final exam is cumulative and will cover the material of the entire semester.
- It is optional, can be taken to replace your lowest grade among the 3 in-class exams.
- Assigned on Canvas, 1 attempt allowed.
- Contains ~50 questions (multiple choice, matching, True/False).
- Timed, 2 hours on the scheduled day. Final exam schedule can be found here: <https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring>
- Even though exams are taken online through Canvas, all exams are to be taken closed book/closed note and on an individual (not group) basis.

Grade Posting

All grades will be posted on Canvas. *You have 7 days after a grade has been posted to dispute an entry.* After the 7-day period, the grade stands as entered. Do not wait until the end of the semester to check your grades.

One reminder here: DO NOT rely on Canvas Grade calculation to check your current total grade status. Only after we grade the last assignment, you will know what the final grade for the course is. What you need to check is each individual assignment grade, and I will post your final grade after the last assignment is graded by the end of semester.

Letter Grade

The grading schema for our course is:

- A: 89.5% - 100%
- B: 79.5% - 89.5%
- C: 69.5% - 79.5%
- D: 59.5% - 69.5%
- F: < 59.5%

Make-up Work

You are responsible for managing your time and keeping up with the course. Only the instructor can excuse a student from a course requirement or responsibility. Attendance, online homework, and final debate **cannot** be made up. Make-up work for exams will only be allowed **before** the exam date. Students must provide **advance** notice **at least before 1 week** of the exam date and documentation for an absence to be considered excused. Exams CANNOT be made up for non-emergency, unexcused absences, or absences that occur without prior notification to the instructor.

Moreover, it is your responsibility to make sure you have a reliable Internet connection when completing an online exam. Late exams or assignments will not be accepted due to Internet issues at your location. They will also not be accepted just because you “forgot” to complete the exam or assignment.

SPOT:

The Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT.

This short survey will be made available to you on April 14, providing you with a chance to submit course evaluation. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Once you complete the survey, you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

I consider the SPOT to be an important part of your participation in this class. To encourage all students to do evaluations, I have made completing the course evaluation as an extra-credit. Every student who completes a SPOT and submit the screen shot of the completion confirmation through Canvas link will receive **1 actual extra point** toward your overall final grade. Just doing the evaluation without submitting your screenshot does not count. Please read the instructions in the Canvas link carefully.

Other than SPOT, no extra credit assignment will be accepted.

Diversity Statement

I want to create a safe and positive learning environment that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). To help accomplish this:

- Let me know if you have a preferred name and/or set of pronouns.
- Don't hesitate to talk with me If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class. I can be a resource for you or direct you to needed resources.
- I (like many people) am still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said in class (by anyone) that made you feel uncomfortable, please talk to me about it.

Accessibility and Accommodations:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. If you seek accommodation, first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify your eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to me to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in this course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.

Class Disruptions are defined as activities that distract the instructor or other students from the course content. Such activities include talking or whispering, cell phones ringing, tardiness or whispering about another tardy student, noisily preparing to leave the class prior to the end of the period, etc. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the University of North Texas college code of student conduct. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the class. Repeat offenders may be withdrawn and reported to the Dean of Students Office (DOS).

Cellular Telephones/Text Messaging/Pagers

Please turn all cellular telephones and pagers to silent during class time – this includes text messaging. If your work situation requires that you be on call, please notify the instructor prior to class.

Use of Laptops in the Classroom

You are only permitted to use a laptop during class to take notes or in-class quizzes, as long as you do not disturb your neighbors. Laptops may not be used during class time to answer email, browse the web, listen to music, or any other activity not related to class. If you are using your laptop for one of these unauthorized activities, you will be asked to leave class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that UNT holds. *Cheating* in this class is absolutely not tolerated. If you are caught you will be given a Zero for that assignment and other measures including reporting to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities may be taken at my discretion.

According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; (d) dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or (e) any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Altering a returned test and claiming a grader or scanning machine made an error is also considered cheating.

The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: (a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Course Timeline and Due Dates:

* *subject to change by the instructor as needed. Any updates will be posted on the course Canvas site.*

Dates	Assignments and due dates
Week 1 1.12 Course Intro 1.14 CH 1 Earth System	Homework 1 (also includes some questions about syllabus) ➤ Due 1.16 11:59 PM
Week 2 1.19 MLK Holiday, no class 1.21 CH 1 Solar System and Ocean Origins	
Week 3 1.26 CH 2 Plate Tectonics 1.28 CH 2 Plate Tectonics	Homework 2 ➤ Due 1.30 11:59 PM
Week 4 2.2 CH 3 Ocean Basins	Hm 3: Summary Assignment ➤ <i>Global Challenge of Ocean Acidification</i>

2.4 CH 3 Ocean Basins + Review #1	➤ Due 2.6 11:59 PM
Week 5 <u>2.9 Exam 1 (online)</u> 2.11 CH 5 Properties of Seawater + Debate info	
Week 6 2.16 CH 5 Properties of Seawater + NOAA data exercise, laptop needed 2.18 CH 6 Surface Energy Balances	Hm 4: Summary Assignment ➤ <i>NASA Global Climate Change</i> ➤ Due 2.20 11:59 PM
Week 7 2.23 CH 6 Atmospheric Circulation 2.25 CH 7 Ocean Circulation	Homework 5: Discussion forum ➤ Due 2.27 11:59 PM
Week 8 3.2 CH 4 Ocean Sediments 3.4 CH 7 El Niño	Homework 6 ➤ Due 3.6 11:59 PM
Week 9 Spring break	
Week 10 3.16 Review #2 <u>3.18 Exam 2 (online)</u>	
Week 11 3.23 CH 8 Waves, CH 9 Tides + debate order 3.25 CH 8 Tsunamis	Homework 7 ➤ Due 3.27 11:59 PM
Week 12 3.30 CH 10 Coasts 4.1 CH 12 Marine Life	Hm 8: Essay Assignment (40 pts)
Week 13 4.6 CH 12 Marine Life + Geologic Time 4.8 Geologic Time	➤ Due 4.10 11:59 PM
Week 14 4.13 Review #3 <u>4.15 Exam 3 (online)</u>	
Week 15 4.20 Final Debate (2 topics) 4.22 Final Debate (2 topics)	Debate Slides + Team contribution form ➤ Due 4.24 11:59 PM
Week 16 4.27 Chasing Coral (online video) 4.29 Pre-finals Day, No class	Hm 9: Video Assignment ➤ <i>Chasing Coral</i> ➤ Due 4.30 11:59 PM SPOT Extra Credit Submission ➤ Due 4.30 11:59 PM

Week 17

5.4 10:00am–12:00 pm FINAL Exam (online, optional, cumulative)