

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
Department of Geosciences

GEO 4920: Geosciences Honors Colloquium, 1 credit hour

Pre-requisites: Admission to the Geography Honors Track.

Course Description: This course is designed to help outstanding geography students develop an awareness of and an appreciation for the multiple research perspectives/approaches that can be brought to studies in geosciences. It is organized around presentations in the department's colloquium series, which showcases geoscience-related research by faculty and graduate students in and outside the department. *Grading: S/U*

Intended Audience: The Geosciences colloquium series is designed to give outstanding geography students the opportunity to interact with faculty and outside scholars/practitioners and to share research and work experience in a somewhat formal setting. Additionally, all members of the University community are welcome to attend.

Strategy: This course meets face-to-face each week for presentations and uses FAU's Blackboard distance learning system (<http://blackboard.fau.edu>) for communication and graded assignments. Students must access Blackboard on a weekly basis to submit their presentation reports.

Electronic mail: This course conforms to the FAU student email policy. All course-related email will be sent to your FAU email account. If you want to forward your FAU email to a different account, you can set this up within your myFAU account. All students must regularly access their electronic mail accounts, as well as Blackboard for announcements and scheduling information! You can normally expect all emails to the instructor to be replied to within 48 hours.

Required text: none

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Reflect upon a variety of geosciences research and practices and how these impact their own college experience
- Develop a deeper sense of connection to each other, the university community and outside agencies through involvement with presenters
- Enhance oral, written, or other communication skills through participation in presentations and the associated dialogue.
- Enhance their development of analytical, creative and/or practical skills as related to critical thinking through written and oral interactions.

Course Requirements: Students are required to attend all presentations, actively participate in follow-up discussions and submit thoughtful presentation reports.

Assessment:

Students will be graded on a **Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory** basis. The grade will be determined by **attendance and presentation reports.**

Attendance: Students are required to attend **all** meetings of GEO 4920. **Students may miss no more than ONE course meeting, which must be for an excused reason such as conference attendance or medical emergency.** Students must contact their instructor ahead of time if they will miss a course meeting.

Presentation reports: For each presentation, students will have one week to submit a summary report form on Blackboard that accurately and thoughtfully summarizes the talk, including the presenter's research objectives, methodology, and conclusions where appropriate. **Students must receive a minimum of 80% on all presentation reports.**

Make-ups: Except for the Assessment policies above, no make-ups will be permitted.

The “incomplete” grade: The grade of I (incomplete) shall **ONLY** be given for the reasons listed and under the conditions specified in the FAU course catalog (<http://www.fau.edu/academic/registrar/catalog/academics.php>).

Academic integrity: All students in this course are expected to adhere to all of FAU's Academic Policies and Regulations, including the Honor Code, http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf. You must never represent the work of another person as your own without acknowledgment. In this course, you may work together in study groups and may help one another with the homework assignments. However, during the tests you may use your lecture notes and the textbook **ONLY**, and may **NOT** collaborate with others. If you have any questions regarding interpretations of academic integrity rules, be sure to see the instructor.

Course etiquette: All cell phones must be turned off or placed on silent mode before class begins. To be courteous to the colloquium presenters, Student should arrive to class on-time and may not leave early. Students should show professionalism at all times during presentations and the following discussion time.

Students with disabilities: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) - in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, MOD 1 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 117 (561-799-8585); or at the Treasure Coast, CO 128 (772-873-3305) - and follow all OSD procedures.