

Geography of Death Valley

GEORDIE ARMSTRONG

PHONE

(805) 722-5407

EMAIL

Garmstrong2@pipeline.sbcc.edu

OFFICE LOCATION

EBS 113

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday

11:30-12:30

Tues-Thurs 1-2 and by appt

GEOGRAPHY 123

Welcome to 5 days of geographic exploration! Gateway to California, playground of the Manson family, driest place in North America, what is Death Valley? How does it embody so many extremes? Lets find out!

Geography is the science of place and space. Geographers study the relationships among location, natural systems, society, cultural activities, and the interdependence of all these over space. In this course, we will conduct a regional study of Death Valley beginning with the natural systems of the area, followed by the cultural and human history of the valley, and ending with the formation of the National park.

Required text

A field guide will be provided

Large 3-ring notebook/binder

COURSE DATES: WEDNESDAY 4/9 (6:30AM MEET IN FRONT OF EBS BUILDING AT SBCC) - SUNDAY 4/13 (5 PM DROP OFF AT SBCC)

SLO's:

1. Assess the climactic processes that have shaped the region
2. Interpret the geologic process, erosion, and mass wasting that have shaped the region
3. Characterize the biological adaptations to the climate and landscape of the region
4. Asses the history, culture, economies of people who have inhabited the region.

This is an inclusive classroom. In this classroom, all students are welcome. In fact, the more diverse opinions, backgrounds, and experiences in our classroom the better. Diversity of people, opinions, and experience serve to make the learning experience richer and stronger, just as it makes a workplace or public governance stronger. I was once an SBCC student and had my own hardships and doubts and I understand the variety of challenges that may face a student. I am here to teach you geography (and hopefully teach you to love it) and to that end I'm committed to helping you break down any barriers that may obstruct you from learning the subject and succeeding in this

course. I encourage you to communicate with me openly about any challenges you may have in course content or in completing course content. Please keep in mind throughout the semester that I am your advocate.

Course Requirements:

1. **Field trip Notebook – 50%** - Notebooks will be graded on content, organization, and completeness. You will turn in your notebook after we return to SBCC.
2. **Daily quizzes – 20%** - There will be a series of questions based on daily material due with your notebook.
3. **Final Project – 30%** - Will be due 2 weeks after we return

Pre-departure:

TUESDAY, April 8, 2024 (the day before the trip)

- Bring your luggage to the EBS loading dock between 7:00 am and 9:00 am on Tuesday morning. Clearly label all luggage. You see this gear again at the end of the next day when we arrive in camp.

Meet in EBS 102 on WEDNESDAY, April 9 at 6:30 am for departure! DON'T BE LATE!

- Bring 3-ring binder, large lunch, one/two filled containers of water, and other “List B” items.
- Check-in at EBS 102 – pick up your notebook and notebook label. You must have a binder at this time.
- If you show up after we are gone you are NOT allowed to follow us in a private vehicle for insurance/liability reasons (school regulations). If you miss the bus, the best course of action is to go home, and then drop the class no later than Thurs for a “W”. No refunds for the field course fee are granted to no-shows (food has already been purchased for you).

On the Road:

- First Stop is approximately 2 hours after leaving campus.
- Lecture stops: Bring your notebook, note-taking materials, and chair to each stop.
- Be prepared to hike short distances over rough terrain. You must wear closed-toed shoes
- Boarding the vehicles as efficiently as possible. Getting on and off of vehicles can delay our arrival times in camp and/or cut down on time at swimming pool stops. Be efficient.
- Please only listen to music with headphones.
- Swim/shower stops. We plan on having swim/shower stops during the trip. Washing stations are provided in camp to wash your hands before and after meals. Consider bringing wet wipes or other personal needs.
- Convenience stops. We are unable to stop at any stores with a group this size. Bring everything you need.

In Camp:

You will be assigned to a work crew and be required to help with daily camp chores. Most work crew assignments are a one-time responsibility although you may be asked to perform other duties such as loading luggage trucks. Your crew assignment will be included in the field guidebook you will be given prior to departure.

- As an SBCC student, you have agreed to behave in accordance with the SBCC Standards of Student Conduct. Any violation of student conduct on the field course is grounds for immediate dismissal. Per school policy, the Standards of Student Conduct apply from the moment we leave campus until the moment we return, and all disciplinary measures that would apply on-campus also apply in the field. (see the green Standards of Student Conduct sheet for more details)
- Absolutely NO alcohol or drugs (legal or not) are allowed at any time of the day or evening while on the trip.
- No smoking cigarettes or vaping (E-cigarettes) are allowed at any time on the trip. Please prepare accordingly.
 - We do not camp at established campgrounds with restrooms and/or shower facilities. You should be prepared to adapt as needed. For equipment list, photos and more, visit:
www.sbcc.cc.ca.us/earthscience/erth132_dv.php

Grading: 97-100% = A+; 93-96.9% = A; 90-92.9%= A-; 87-89.9%=B+; 83-86.9%= B; 80-82.9%= B-; 77-79.9%= C+; 70-76.9%=C; 55-69.9% = D; < 55% = F

I reserve the right to amend these numbers slightly to account for participation at the end of the semester, but only to boost your grade.

Academic Integrity

The college has established codes concerning proper academic conduct and the consequences resulting from improper behavior. Please be aware of these codes. Students are responsible for knowing the SBCC regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating on exams, fabrication of reports, assignments sources, interfering with another students work or helping another student cheat. Plagiarism is defined as copying another person's works without appropriate acknowledgement. This includes 1) quoting another persons' actual words. 2) Paraphrasing another person's words; 3) use of another persons' ideas, opinion or theory; or 4) borrowing of facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless information is common knowledge. Additionally, do not cut and paste large quotes or another person's writing into your short writing assignment.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities at Santa Barbara City College. If you have or think you might have a disability that impacts your educational experience in this class, contact DSPS to determine your eligibility for accommodations.

If you have already registered with DSPS, please submit your accommodation requests via the *'DSPS Online Services Student Portal'* as soon as possible. This needs to be done each semester. If you have any questions or concerns about your accommodations, make an appointment with a DSPS Counselor.

Please complete this process in a timely manner to allow adequate time to provide accommodations.