

I. Pacific Geography
Course Title

GEO 121
Alpha Number

II. **Course Objectives**

A. General Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:

1. Identify geography as a science (LA 1, 3)
2. Describe Pacific weather conditions and the role plate tectonics, and volcanic activity has played in island formation (LA 1)
3. Describe Pacific culture in terms of geographic conditions (LA 1)
4. Relate scientific explanations for island formation in the Pacific (LA 2)

B. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify a greater knowledge, appreciation, and awareness of the Pacific region, its unique cultures and resources, its role in the world economy, and some of the problems and challenges it faces as it enters the 21st century
2. Describe conditions of island formation
 - a. Explain geographical terms
 - b. Describe how volcanoes and coral form islands
3. Describe the influence of geography on island cultures
 - a. Describe the prehistoric migration patterns and original colonization of the Pacific by mankind
 - b. Explain the effect of European and American contact with the colonization of the specific region from the 16th through the 20th century
4. Describe the formation of at least twelve Pacific countries, their capital cities, and the three major Pacific cultural regions as well as their similarities and differences

III. **Course Content**

Surveys the geographical, social, and cultural, and political development of the Pacific islands.

1. Geography and its relevance
2. Plate tectonics
3. Weather and weather patterns in geography
4. Island formation in the Pacific
5. Migration patterns
6. Population trends
7. Vegetation in the Pacific
8. Environmental problems in the Pacific
9. Political regions of the Pacific

VI. Methods of Instruction

1. Lectures
2. Class discussions
3. Small group collaboration
4. Reading assignments
5. Videos

V. Equipment and Materials

1. Television
2. VCR

VI. Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1. Journals
2. Position papers
3. Term paper
4. Presentation of the paper

Letter grades will be assigned per CMI Grading System.

