GEOG 20                   The Geography of Surfing
Winter 2006                          Dr. Stuart Sweeney
Lecture: MW 5:00-6:15, Embarcadero Hall
Section: W 6:30-7:30, Embarcadero Hall
Web page:  www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sweeney/g20/g20.htm
Office Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m., or by appointment
Assistant: Tony Marca, Ellison Hall 5723, marca@geog.ucsb.edu
Office Hours: Wed. 2:00-3:00 pm, Thurs. 2:30-3:30 pm

Required Texts
Reserve readings on ERes (http://eres.library.ucsb.edu/eres/courseindex.aspx?page=search)

Recommended Texts

Course Description
Surfing is a major Californian youth culture attribute that is familiar to most undergraduates at UCSB. Since the sport and culture emerge from human activities in the natural environment, it provides a natural vehicle to explore topics in spatial social science, physical processes, and their joint interaction. The course is organized around four major topics: *Ocean Waves and Surf Forecasting; Surfing Culture, History, and Spatial Diffusion; Spatial Behavior of Surfers; and Surfing, the Surf Industry, and the Environment*. Compared to other courses I teach, this one will place much more emphasis on the application of concepts to your own experiences. The major goals for the course are: (1) to develop an appreciation of human activities and actions in relation to the natural environment, and (2) to set fundamental geographic concepts in the context of a major cultural element of California.

Section
The course has a required section which will meet in Embarcadero Hall on Wednesdays. The section will be used to screen surf films that are of cultural, historic, or scientific interest. A few questions based on film content will appear on each of the three exams. The films will not be on reserve and will not be circulated.

Student Evaluation
There will be three in-class multiple choice exams with each weighted equally in the determination of your final course grade. A few extra credit opportunities will be available during the course and will be described on a separate handout.

Communications
In general, the teaching assistant should be your first point of contact for any questions about procedural issues related to the course. I will be happy to answer questions related to the course content or the field of geography during office hours. Discussion and announcements will be posted to the course bulletin board. Please register for the BBS at http://bbs.geog.ucsb.edu.
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<td>Introduction to Geography</td>
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<td>W</td>
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<td>Ocean Waves and Surf Forecasting</td>
<td>Film: Making the Call, Big Waves of the North Pacific</td>
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<td>** Exam 1 **</td>
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<td>Film: Surfer's Journal - Hal Jepsen</td>
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<td>Surfing, the Surf Industry, and the Environment</td>
<td>Film: Five Summer Stories</td>
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TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

The required course text are referenced by authors last name and chapter. The material available on ERes is referenced by full citation.

I. INTRODUCTION

1 Geography Primer
   Read:
   Ch.1 “On the Beach”

II. OCEAN WAVES AND SURF FORECASTING

2-5 Wave Processes
   Read:
   Colas “Meteorology and Oceanography” (the main introduction for the book)
   Butt et al. Ch. 1-7

   Skim:
   Ch. 1 “Waves”

   Surf Forecasting
   Read:
   Butt et al. Ch. 13-14

   Regional Focus:
   Colas “The Pacific Islands” - (zones 45-53)

III. SURFING CULTURE, HISTORY, AND SPATIAL DIFFUSION

7-11 Surfing culture, history, and spatial diffusion
   Read:
   “the seed culture”
   Ch. 7 “Cultural Diversities”

   Skim:
   Ch. 16 “Spatial Diffusion”

   Regional Focus
   Colas “Australia” - (zones 39-44)
   Colas “North America” - (zones 54-59)