California’s Channel Islands
Geography 149/Environmental Studies 111 – Spring quarter, 2009

Instructor
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Office hours: W 1-2pm, F 12-1pm, and by appointment

Graduate Teaching assistant
Sara Baguskas
Office: 6706 Ellison Hall
Email: baguskas@geog.ucsb.edu
Office hours: Mon 1-2pm; Thurs 1-3pm
Informal Discussion Section:
Fri 1-2pm in Ellison Hall 2620

Course Syllabus#

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 31, Apr 2</td>
<td>Introduction to the Channel Islands; Physical geography and geologic history of the Islands</td>
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<td>Apr 7, 9</td>
<td>Climate of the Channel Islands; Ocean circulation and phytoplankton in the California current and So Cal bight</td>
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<td>Apr 14, 16</td>
<td>Killer whale film; intertidal ecology or fog and coastal clouds</td>
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<td>Apr 21, 23</td>
<td>Kelp ecosystems; midterm 1 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>Apr 28, 30</td>
<td>Marine mammals of the Islands and SB Channel; Island biogeography: dispersal, endemism, gigantism, dwarfism</td>
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<td>May 5, 7</td>
<td>Terrestrial ecology of the Channel Islands</td>
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<td>May 12, 14</td>
<td>Terrestrial ecology of the Channel Islands (cont.); Early humans on the Channel Islands; Chumash history and archeology of the Islands</td>
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<td>May 19, 21</td>
<td>Early humans and mammoths on the Islands; midterm 2 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>May 26, 28</td>
<td>Ranching and erosion on Santa Cruz Island; Restoration ecology on Santa Catalina Island</td>
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<td>Jun 2, 4</td>
<td>Island foxes, goats, pigs, sheep, eagles, and invasive species; Management challenges into the 21st century; Wrap-up</td>
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<td>Finals week</td>
<td>Final exam: Wednesday, June 10th from 12-3 pm</td>
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# Note: please check the webpage frequently as the syllabus will change slightly throughout the quarter. I will announce major changes to the syllabus in class.
Course meeting times: TR 1100-1215pm in 1004 Girvetz Hall


Course webpage: http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~cstill/GEOG149/

Grading
Letter grades will be assigned at the end of the quarter based on the following cutoffs:

A  90-100%
B  80-89%
C  70-79%
D  60-69%
F  <60%

The grade assignment will be determined from your performance in these components:
Field Trip Assignments: 30% (Note: now worth only 15% since the SB Botanical Garden assignment was cancelled)
2 Midterms: 40% (Note: now worth 50% of your overall grade)
Final exam: 30% (Note: now worth 35% of your overall grade)

You will take two midterm exams and one final exam. Sara (the course TA) will hold a review session the Wednesday before each exam (see next section), and I will post a review sheet on the website a week before each exam. The midterm exams will be given on Thursday, April 23 and Thursday, May 21. The final exam will be given on Wednesday, June 10th from 12-3 pm (see page 29 in the Spring ‘09 Schedule of Classes).

Discussion section and field trip assignments
There is no formal discussion section for this course. However, Sara will offer an informal discussion section each Friday in Ellison 2620 from 1-2pm, and she has extended office hours as well. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. There will be two field trip assignments that will require you to visit both the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum and the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden on your own time. I will provide details later.

Lectures
I will post all lectures on the course website as PDF files, except for those given by guest lecturers who do not want me to post their material. The PDF of a given lecture will generally be available the afternoon after the lecture.

Santa Cruz Island Day Trip
Unfortunately, we will not be offering an all-day trip to Santa Cruz Island as we have done in years past. This is due to the high cost of purchasing insurance for renting the Condor Express boat. We are trying to arrange other options, and I will announce these in class later in the quarter.