

# GEOG 506: Community Service Practice in Geography

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Office Hours: MWF 1:00-1:50  
W 5-5:30, 8:30-9, and by appt.

This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to deepen their understanding of geography and planning through an applied research project, as well as expose them to the everyday workings of a planning department in a medium-size town.

## Readings

Stemen, *GEOG 506 CD*

Stoknes, *What We Think About When We Try Not to Think About Global Warming: Toward a Social Psychology of Climate Action*

## Assignments

12 two-page journals	360 pts
Sector Analysis	200 pts
Vulnerability Assessment	250 pts
Dispatch From the Future	150 pts
Three-page final journal	<u>40 pts</u>
	1000 pts

## Objectives

Provide students the opportunity to apply their geographic skills to the problems of climate action.

Increase student knowledge and understanding of city planning

Engage students in discussions about important works in the field of environmental geography and sustainability

Provide students the opportunity to improve their writing skills

Promote civic engagement and service to the region

Acquiring a bunch of facts is not the major focus of this class. I am more concerned with how you think. I designed the class so we can discuss and expand on the same concepts throughout the semester. Since writing is thinking on paper, we will spend a majority of the class focusing on your written work.

Every week you will write a two-page journal on that week's readings. I comment on these journals, but I do not grade them. If it appears to me that you have done the reading, and spent some time thinking about it, you receive full credit. I assign this exercise to get you into the habit of writing about what you read. Journals are due the week they are assigned.

Journals and class discussions are the core of the heart of the course. Come prepared to talk. You will read each other's journals at the start of each class. Then I will lead the seminar in a discussion of the week's readings, how they relate to each other, and how they relate to earlier readings.

In 2016, students used Cal-Adapt to forecast the climate for Chico in 2030. In 2017, students built on the previous effort and produced a vulnerability assessment for the City of Chico or Butte County, using templates provided by the State of California. In 2018, we are coming home and producing an assessment of Chico State's vulnerability to climate change. Students will focus on telling positive stories of climate adaptation from the perspective of 2037, Chico State's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

If you have a disability of any type that makes it difficult for you to complete any of above the course work please let me know and I will work with you to resolve the difficulty.

*"I believe it will be calming to get to know the world that is likely to be our home in the future rather than dreaming about a world that could have been. The first step down the road to mental peace is to obtain a precise description of what the future is going to look like. Then to accept it. And finally to stop grieving."*

– Jorgen Randers, 2052

## **Weekly subjects, reading assignments, and course work deadlines**

(This schedule may / will change as the seminar evolves.)

### **August 29 – Climate Action on Adaptation**

*The Nine-Step Adaptation Strategy Development Process*

*The Five Ds*

*Chico Impact Table*

*A Fable For Tomorrow*

<https://toolkit.climate.gov/>

Video: The Secrets of The Climate Paradox

---Additional Readings-----

*Peak Everything*

*What Can Communities Do?*

*The Right of the People to Protect the Climate*

### **September 5 – Our Future World**

*The World in 2050*, pp. 1-25

*Climate Change in California*, pp. 1-29

*Four Degrees*

---Additional Readings-----

*2052*, pp. 1-49

*Limits to Growth-Thirty Year Update*, pp. xi.-16

*Beyond Limits to Growth*

Journal # 1 due

### **September 8 – Rise for Climate, Jobs & Justice March in San Francisco**

### **September 12 – Identifying Exposure with Cal Adapt**

<http://cal-adapt.org>

*Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, City of Chico*

*Indicators of Climate Change in California: A Summery*

---Additional Readings-----

*Indicators of Climate Change in California: 2018 Update*

*Assessment of Climate Change in the Southwest United States:*

*Summary for Decision Makers*

*Updating And Enhancing The Cal-Adapt Website*

*Map-Based Web Tools Supporting Climate Change Adaptation*

Journal # 2 due

### **September 19 – Adapting to Climate Change Vulnerabilities**

*Planning for Adaptive Communities*, pp. i-3

*APG Defining Local and Regional Impacts*, pp. i-9

*APG Understanding Regional Characteristics*, pp. i-12, 37-46

<https://toolkit.climate.gov/>

<https://resilientca.org/>

*The Jury of Our Peers*

---Additional Readings-----

*Safeguarding California Plan: 2018 Update*, pp. 8-20  
*APG Identifying Adaption Strategies*, pp. i-12,  
Journal # 3 due

September 26 – **Chico State Adaptation Strategies**

*Higher Education's Role in Adapting to Climate Change*, pp.4-5, 11-23  
*State of Sustainability 2017: Trends in Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation*, pp. i-9, 21-29  
*CSU Chico Org Charts*  
*Two Brains*  
Division Choice Due  
Journal # 4 due

October 3 – **Telling Adaptation Stories**

*Houston, We Have a Narrative*  
*The ABT Template*  
*Tell Me a Story*  
---Additional Readings-----  
*California Climate Adaptation Storybook*  
*Narrative Power Analysis*  
*Narrative Power Analysis Worksheet*  
Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9TWwG4SFWQ>  
Journal # 5 due

October 10 – **Climate Change and Extreme Heat**

*Climate Change and Health Profile Report Butte County*  
*Paddling in the Pool of Worry*  
---Additional Readings-----  
<https://toolkit.climate.gov/case-studies/bracing-heat>  
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/climatechange/extremeheat.html>  
<https://toolkit.climate.gov/tool/ready-campaign-extreme-heat-social-media-toolkit>  
*The Great 2006 Heat Wave over California and Nevada*  
Journal # 6 due

October 17 – **The Psychology of Climate Action**

*What We Think About ... Global Warming*, pp. xi-83  
Division Impact Due  
Journal # 7 due

October 24 – **Building Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change Exposure**

*15 Steps to Create Effective Climate Communications*  
*Public Interest Communications: A Social Psychological Perspective*  
List of Possible Adaptations Due  
Journal # 8 due

October 31 – **The Horror of Climate Change — No Class**

November 2 – *John Fox, The Truth Has Changed* – BMU 100

November 7 – **Reframing Climate Messages: The Five Ds Revisited**

*What We Think About ... Global Warming*, pp. 84-162

Journal # 9 due

November 14 – **Dispatches From the Future**

Dispatch Presentation

Draft Dispatch due

November 21 – No Class

November 28 – **Community Forum Planning**

*Don't Even Talk About It*

Journal # 10 due

December 5 – **Community Outreach and Education**

Community Forum on Climate Change & Chico State's 150<sup>th</sup> Graduation

Colusa 100A

Dispatch From the Future Due

December 12 – **Culminating Event**

Final Journal due

December 19 – No Class (cancelled)