Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, Robert W. Christopherson, Prentice Hall Higher Education, 2009, 0136005985, 9780136005988, 687 pages. Geosystems, 7/e fully defines physical geography by offering the latest science in an Earth systems organization. With its detailed remote sensing imagery, excellent cartography, and photography along side a student-friendly technology package, the book offers a one-of-a-kind study of Physical Geography. Using the latest in satellite imagery and current statistical information, this book covers such topics as: the energy-atmosphere system; the water, weather, and climate systems; the earth-atmosphere interface; and soils, ecosystems, and biomes.

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Elemental geosystems, Robert W. Christopherson, 2001, Science, 586 pages. Offering a briefer treatment of the elements of physical geography without sacrificing scientific content, Elemental Geosystems features a distinctive integration of human ....


Scientific Principles for Physical Geographers, Ian K. Bradbury, John Boyle, Andy Morse, 2002, Science, 301 pages. Science for Geography and Environment introduces students (and academics who need to brush up their knowledge!) to scientific principles in a lively and accessible way ....


Globalization And Diversity Geography Of A Changing World, Lester B Rowntree, Martin Lewis, Marie Price, 2005, , 435 pages. For undergraduate World Regional Geography courses, or for a course on globalization where instructors desire a BRIEF TREATMENT of the CORE IDEAS in World Regional Geography ....

Geography, tools and concepts, , Jan 1, 2001, Social Science, 179 pages.

An Introduction to Physical Geography and the Environment, Joseph Holden, 2005, Science, 664 pages. "An Introduction to Physical Geography and the Environment "provides a comprehensive overview of the major topics within physical geography, including climate, landform ....

Discovering physical geography, Alan F. Arbogast, Dec 22, 2006, Science, 624 pages. Alan Arbogast's new text brings the physical world into your classroom, and lets you share your passion with your students like no other book/media package you've seen before ....

Water in Environmental Planning, Thomas Dunne, Aug 15, 1978, Business & Economics, 818
pages. A classic advanced undergraduate/graduate level text showing how knowledge of hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, and river quality are used in environmental planning. The focus ....

History of Modern Design Graphics and Products Since the Industrial Revolution, David Raizman, 2003, Design, 400 pages. "This insightful, wide-ranging book surveys applied arts and industrial design from the eighteenth century to the present day, exploring the dynamic relationship between design ....

From the very first page, the student is drawn into excitement of contemporary physical geography and the challenge of exploring the home planet. This text offers a distinctive integration of human-Earth relationships, an applied flavor, scientific correctness, and extraordinary currency. The new edition builds on the great success of the first two editions with its thorough, current coverage of physical geography. Geosystems presents the most up-to-date information about Earth's physical systems available in an introductory text— all viewed through the spatial analysis approach unique to physical geography. The text is supported by a superior cartographic and illustration program, including 210 new photographs, 80 remotely-sensed images, and 75 maps that have been re-rendered or are new to this edition. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Geosystems is written, organized, and illustrated to give novices an accessible, systematic, and visually appealing start in physical geography. Virtual field trips: Alpine Glacier and Tundra, Geothermal, River Systems Features, Great Salt Lake/Basin and Range, Shorelines, Wetlands, Tectonics, Volcanics, Great Coastal Redwoods, and Landuse. For anyone interested in Physical Geography.

I am a Teaching Assistant at UC Santa Barbara and relied heavily on Christopherson's text through 2 quarters of introductory physical geography. The book succeeds in its mission: it clearly explains the fundamental principles of the Earth's interacting atmosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere, and it does so in a geographic context. The theme of interacting systems holds the material together, allowing students to integrate the multitude of basic concepts into a big picture. Christopherson takes time to include material on how humans interact with the various earth systems, a very relevant topic today with disasters in the news and environmental problems abounding. The text works best for students with a solid high school background in science, but seems achievable even for students who "hate science" or have a poor background in it. At the same time, due to extensive, well thought out diagrams, side-boxes, web references, and many thoughtful pictures, the text is engaging enough to keep even the most advanced students (and T.A. graduate students!) reading. Geosystems is considerably more accessible than Strahler & Strahler's Physical Geography, although the latter book should be preferred for more advanced courses. The only negative point of any significance is the CD-ROM included with the book. Perhaps it was my PC, but I found it clumsy to use, with small pictures, little interaction and generally not worth anyone's time. Few students even tried it, and none found it helpful for learning the material. Hopefully this will be revamped in future additions. In conclusion, I should mention that in addition to its academic virtues, the text is one of the most beautiful textbooks I have ever had the pleasure of owning. I have heard that Christopherson essentially has devoted his career to the production and revision of this text, and it shows. It is the kind of book you can profitably keep on your shelf, coffee table, or under your seat during a cross-country road trip. Read more &rsaquo;

I thought this was well organized and easy to understand for the most part. There were only a few parts (pages, really) that were sort of ho-hum. The diagrams and photos were top notch and really went well with the text. This text would be interesting to read just for the sake of it. I don't have another text to compare it to, which I imagine is a good thing. I've had other texts that were so bad that I only used them for the problem sets (Zill's diff eq text!) but the only external source I used with this book was the internet -- and that was usually because something in the book sparked more curiosity.

This is a really nice book and goes into detail. I need this book for class and I really like the class.
The only suggestion that I have is asking your professor if you need the 7th edition or if you can use the 6th, there is little difference between the two books. My professor told me after I had already purchased this book that I could have used the 6th edition and saved lots of money. Overall great book!!

Fun to read?! A textbook!? That's right. I'm reading this for my own edification, not for a class, and I'm enjoying it. This book is amazingly well organized. It flows from topic to topic, and learning is enhanced. With most textbooks, you know the routine. Read it, hope the teacher can explain it better, then reorganize the material in your notes into some more understandable fashion. With Geosystems, it's just "read and learn."

Good Book! Lots of good illustrations and examples, with an overubundance of current world data, and concepts. This book would be great to use in conjunction with classroom lectures for a sixteen week or full semester course, so that you have an opportunity to absorb pertinent material. With the amount of information in this book I would not recommend its' use for a short eight week internet course.

Unlike most textbooks, this hardcover version is worth every penny, and the paperback is a bargain. This is a large book, 8.5 x 11, crammed with photos, extraordinarily well organized, illustrated, and presented, and it includes a CD ROM that the previous owner never opened that I find to be priceless: a series of illustrations and animations keyed to every chapter, with a non-punitive self-test. Also provided free are an online study guide. Supporting materials include a Student Study Guide and a Student Lecture Notebook that provides illustrations and diagrams to be integrated into the class binder. All are identified by ISBNs, but if you miss page xviii, which outlines "the package," you will be unaware of the other resources.

The only gap in this book, and it could probably be quickly developed as a supplementary paperback guide and CD, is the avoidance of an integrated discussion of costs and consequences. The entire study of Geosystems is irrelevant unless it can be explained to people in "true cost" terms. While the book excels, for example, at showing the severe drop in aquifers across specific places, it does not provide a guide to calculating current and future costs to society for ignoring these problems and allowing corporations and individuals to continue to externalize to the public and to future generations, the costs of being stupid and greedy today.

Among the most highly regarded in physical geography, Robert Christopherson's bestselling texts are known for meticulous attention to detail, currency, accuracy, rich integration of climate change science, and strong multimedia program. Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography, Eighth Edition is organized around the natural flow of energy, materials, and information, presenting subjects in the same sequence in which they occur in nature—an organic, holistic approach that is unique in this discipline. Each chapter also includes strong learning tools and a structured learning path, with Key Learning Concepts presented at the start of the chapter, Key Learning Concepts Review at the end of the chapter, and Critical Thinking questions integrated throughout. Offering current examples and modern science within a one-of-a-kind Earth systems organization, Christopherson combines student-friendly writing, outstanding art, and a strong multimedia program for a truly unique physical geography experience.

He attended Cal State University-Chico, and Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. His first textbook was published in 1992. His textbooks have received several national textbook awards. Also, he was recognized for excellence in teaching with the 1999 "Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award" from the National Council for Geographic Education and the "Outstanding Educator Award" from the California Geographical Society. He was selected by American River College students as "Teacher of the Year" and received the "ARC Patrons Award" for teaching. In 2009 he was elected to the Textbook and Authors Association prestigious Council of Fellows. He has spoken across the US and Canada to hundreds of colleges, groups, and at professional meetings. Robert was a key member of the Editorial Board for Goode's World Atlas, 22/E, published by Rand McNally.
Robert and his nature photographer wife, Bobbé Christopherson, completed eleven scientific expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic regions since 2003. They returned May 2 from Antarctica and an expedition northward across the Atlantic Ocean to Cape Verde Islands off the coast of Africa. On these trips they gather materials for Christopherson’s physical geography textbooks.

I couldn't afford to buy this book so I rented it from Amazon and they sent me a brand new book. As always, item came in a frustration-free packaging. Amazon always delivers top-notch service for me. About the book... This textbook is full of information and I'm lucky my professor does not give tests solely on memorization of the terms and definitions; otherwise I would fail. It's like at every paragraph, there's a new term or technical term and this textbook is is say an excellent resource for those wanting to major in Geography and also for those in the teaching profession. This textbook is also full of illustrations and real-life examples. I grade this book an A+.

I purchased this item as "brand new" on Amazon, and assumed that it would include the access codes. Unfortunately, when I received the package, not only was the book not sealed/in shrink wrap, it didn't contain the access codes. I went ahead and purchased the codes from my University, but it was still an inconvenience, and the product was not advertised correctly.

Geosystems is written, organized, and illustrated to give new learners an accessible, systematic, and visually appealing start in the study of physical geography. This edition includes the brand new Geography Animations CD. A four-part organization of chapter covers the energy-atmosphere system; the water, weather, and climate systems; the earth-atmosphere interface; and...more I read this textbook needed for my Physical Geography class. As an introduction to the science it served its purpose. I did feel like I learned quite a bit from it even though I was using the text to take an on-line class through my local junior/community college. I am sure had I been in a face-to-face class I may have gotten more out of the class. The text had wonderful pictures and the part that I liked the most were the added websites along inside of the text to go for further reading.(less)

I had to read this book for my freshman college course in Earth Science in 2000. I didn't appreciate it at the time, naively assuming all college texts would be so well written. I just looked it over again in December 2008 and it's stands as one of the best textbooks I ever bought. The material is presented very clearly, and the illustrations are all quite useful in clarifying the material. It covers all the topics you would expect in an Earth Science course, with prose that is clear and on point. This work is protected by local and international copyright laws and is provided solely for the use of instructors in teaching their courses and assessing student learning. Dissemination or sale of any part of this work (including on the World Wide Web) will destroy the integrity of the work and is not permitted. The work and materials from this site should never be made available to students except by instructors using the accompanying text in their classes. All recipients of this work are expected...more
to abide by these restrictions and to honor the intended pedagogical purposes and the needs of other instructors who rely on these materials.

A rich integrated multimedia experience in the accompanying MasteringGeography platform engages active learners with narrated geoscience animations, Encounter Geosystems Google Earth®; Explorations, satellite loops, author Notebooks, videos, “In the News” RSS feeds, Thinking Spatially activities, visual glossary, photo galleries, and more.

MasteringGeography icons are integrated within the chapters of the text to highlight online self-study media (Animations, Satellite Loops, Author Notebooks), and each chapter ends with a section describing the online content available for that chapter. MasteringGeography can include an optional Pearson eText for Geosystems, Eighth Edition.

This textbook supplies an introduction to the major aspects of physical geography: the energy-atmosphere system; the water, weather, and climate systems; the earth-atmosphere interface; and, soil, ecosystems, and biomes. Particular chapters discuss the seasons, global temperatures, atmospheric and oceanic circulation's, weather, water resources, tectonics and volcanism, weathering, river systems and landforms, the oceans, glaciers, soil geography, and the human factor. The book is heavily illustrated with maps, graphs, and color photographs. Christopherson’s credentials are not noted. Annotation c. Book News, Inc., Portland, OR (booknews.com)

Welcome to physical geography and the fifth edition of Geosystems! We begin this new century with a sense that the world community is responding to global concerns as to the status and conditions of Earth’s physical, biological, and chemical systems. The globalization of the world economies seems paralleled by a global scientific inquiry into the state of the environment. Marking this awareness is the second Earth Summit held in 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa, with an agenda including climate change, freshwater, and the five Rio Conventions, among other topics.

Armed with the spatial analysis tools of geographic science, physical geographers are well equipped to participate in a planetary understanding of environmental conditions. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, recipient of the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize, spoke to the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in 2001, stating,

This edition of Geosystems, with its contemporary global scope, builds on the success achieved by the first four editions in the United States, Canada, and elsewhere. Students and teachers alike continue to express appreciation for the systems organization, readability, scientific accuracy, up-to-date coverage and relevancy, clarity of the summary and review sections, the functional beauty of the photographs, art, cartography, and the many integrated figures in the text that combine media.

The goal of physical geography is to explain the spatial dimension of Earth’s dynamic systems—its energy, air, water, weather, climate, tectonics, landforms, rocks, soils, plants, ecosystems, and biomes. Understanding human-Earth relations is part of the challenge of physical geography to create a holistic (or complete) view of the planet and its inhabitants.

Geosystems analyzes the worldwide impact of environmental events, synthesizing many physical factors into a complete picture of Earth system operations. A good example is the eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines. The global implications of this major event (one of the largest eruptions in the 20th century) are woven through seven chapters of the book (see Figure 1.6 for a summary). Our update on global climate change and its related potential effects is part of the fabric in six chapters. These content threads weave together the variety of interesting and diverse topics crucial to a thorough understanding of physical geography.

This edition of Geosystems features more than 500 photographs from across the globe and 105 remote-sensing images from a wide variety of orbital platforms. Twenty-nine of these images are from the Terra satellite and its five sensor packages. To assist with spatial analysis and location,
121 maps are utilized, and more than 300 illustrations explain concepts.

Each section of this book is organized around the flow of energy, materials, and information. Geosystems presents subjects in the same sequence in which they occur in nature. In this way you and your teacher logically progress through topics which unfold according to the flow of individual systems, or in accord with time and the flow of events. See Figure 1.7 in the text for an illustration of this systems organization.

For flexibility, Geosystems is divided into four parts, each containing chapters that link content in logical groupings. The diagram on the next page from Figure 1.8 illustrates our part structure. A quick check of the Table of Contents and this illustration shows you the order of chapters within these four parts.

The text culminates with Chapter 21, "Earth and the Human Denominator," a unique capstone chapter that summarizes physical geography as an important discipline to help us understand Earth's present status and possible future. Think of the world's population and the totality of our impact as the human denominator. Just as the denominator in a fraction tells how many parts a whole is divided into, so the growing human population and the increasing demand for resources and rising planetary impact suggest how much the whole Earth system must adjust. This chapter is sure to stimulate further thought and discussion, dealing as it does with the most profound issue of our time, Earth's stewardship.

Teaching and learning begin with the front and back cover images of the Pacific Northwest, two detail photos, and locator map. Geosystems is written to assist you in the learning process. Three heading levels are used throughout the text and precise topic sentences begin each paragraph to help you outline and review material. Boldface words are defined where they first appear in the text. These terms and concepts are collected in the Glossary alphabetically, with a chapter-number reference. Italics are used in the text to emphasize other words and phrases of importance. Every figure has a title that summarizes the caption. Also, in the introduction to each chapter, a new feature called "In this chapter:" gives you an overview.

An important continuing feature is a list of Key Learning Concepts that opens each chapter, stating what you should be able to do upon completing the chapter. These objectives are keyed to the main headings in the chapter. At the end of each chapter is a unique Summary and Review section that corresponds to the Key Learning Concepts. Grouped under each learning concept is a narrative review that redefines the boldfaced terms, a key terms list with page numbers, and specific review questions for that concept. You can conveniently review each concept, test your understanding with review questions, and check key terms in the glossary, then return to the chapter and the next learning concept. In this way, the chapter content is woven together using specific concepts.

A Critical Thinking section ends each chapter, challenging you to take the next step with information from the chapter. The key learning concepts help you determine what you want to learn, the text helps you develop information and more questions, the summary and review helps you assess what you have learned and what more you might want to know about the subject, and the critical thinking provokes action and application.

New Career Link essays feature geographers and other scientists in a variety of professional fields practicing their spatial analysis craft. You will read about an astronaut with over 1200 hours in orbit, a weather forecaster at the Forecast Systems Lab, an environmental scientist, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service, a snow avalanche specialist, and an expert on global scale ecosystems, among others.

Twenty "Focus Study" essays, some completely revised and several new to this edition, provide additional explanation of key topics. A few examples from this diverse collection include: the stratospheric ozone predicament, solar energy collection and wind power, the newly (2001) calibrated wind-chill chart, forecasting the near-record 1995-2000 hurricane seasons, the 1997-1998 El Nino phenomenon, geothermal energy development, status of the High Plains Aquifer using new
maps, floodplain strategies, an environmental approach to shoreline planning, the Mount St. Helens eruption, the 2001 status of the Colorado River, and the continuing global loss of biodiversity.

Forty-three "News Reports" relate topics of special interest. For example: GPS, careers in GIS, a 34-kilometer sky dive to study the atmosphere, jet streams and airline flight times, how one culture harvests fog, the UV Index, coordination of global climate change research with many URLs presented, the disappearing Nile Delta, water issues in the Middle East, artificial scouring of the Grand Canyon to restore beaches and habitats, how sea turtles read Earth's magnetic field, alien and exotic plant and animal invasions, and threats to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

We now live on a planet served by the Internet and its World Wide Web, a resource that weaves threads of information from around the globe into a vast fabric. The fact that we have Internet access into almost all the compartments aboard Spaceship Earth is clearly evident in Geosystems. Many entry points link directly from the words in a chapter to an Internet source allowing you to be up-to-the minute in understanding the facts. You will find more than 200 URLs (Internet addresses) in the body of the text (printed in blue color and boldface). Given the fluid nature of the Internet, URLs were rechecked at press time for accuracy. If some URLs changed since publication, you can most likely find the new location using elements of the old address. Textbooks, especially in dynamic fields like geography must be tapped into these streams of scientific discoveries and environmental events. This Internet link begins with a new Table 1.1 presenting the URLs for major geography organizations.


Geosystems WWW Site: This site gives you the opportunity to further explore topics presented in the book using the Internet. The site contains numerous review exercises (from which you get immediate feedback), exercises to expand students' understanding of physical geography and resources for further exploration. This web site provides an excellent opportunity from which to start using the Internet for the study of geography.

Virtual Fieldtrip 3.0 CD, (ISBN: 0-13009750-0) a CD-ROM by Jeremy Dunning, Larry Onesti, and Robert Christopherson. This revised CD contains support material for every chapter in the text and more than a dozen virtual field trips. If your instructor chooses, the Virtual Field Trip 3.0 CD-ROM can be packaged free of charge with Geosystems, 5e. Please see your local Prentice Hall representative for details.

Geosystems is designed to give you flexibility in presenting your course. The text is comprehensive in that it is true to each scientific discipline from which it draws subject matter. This diversity is a strength of physical geography, yet makes it difficult to cover the entire book in a school term. You should feel free to customize use of the text based on your specialty or emphasis. The four-part structure of chapters, systems organization within each chapter, focus study and news report features, all will assist you in sampling some chapters while covering others to greater depth. The following materials are available to assist you, have a great class!


Digital Image Gallery for Interactive Teaching (D.LG.LT.), Fifth Edition (ISBN: 0-13-034814-7), contains most of the figures and some of the photographs from the text. Images are high-resolution, low compression in high quality digital form. The software makes customizing your multimedia presentations easy. You can organize figures in any order you want, add labels, lines, and your own artwork to them using an overlay tool, integrate materials from other sources, and edit and annotate
lecture notes. New to this edition is a complete PowerPoint presentation for the book, ready for classroom presentation, prepared by Charlie Thomsen.

Test Manager Geosystems Test Bank (ISBN: 0-13034800-2), by Robert Christopherson and Charlie Thomsen. This collaboration has produced the most extensive and fully revised test item file available in physical geography. This test bank employs TestGenEQ software. TestGen-EQ is a computerized test generator that lets you view and edit test bank questions, transfer questions to tests, and print customized formats. Included is the QuizMaster-EQ program that lets you administer tests on a computer network, record student scores, and print diagnostic reports. Mac and IBM/DOS computer formats are served.

Applied Physical Geography—Geosystems in the Laboratory, Fifth Edition (ISBN: 0-13-034823-6), by Robert Christopherson and Gail Hobbs of Pierce College. Reviewer comments and the feedback from users were very positive for the third edition. The new fifth edition is the result of a careful revision. Twenty lab exercises, divided into logical sections, allow flexibility in presentation. Each exercise comes with a list of learning concepts. Our manual is the only one that comes with its own complete glossary and stereolenses and stereomaps for viewing photo stereopairs in the manual. A complete Solutions and Answers Manual is available to teachers (ISBN: 0-13034815-5).

Geosystems, 7/e fully defines physical geography by offering the latest science in an Earth systems organization. With its detailed remote sensing imagery, excellent cartography, and photography along side a student-friendly technology package, the book offers a one-of-a-kind study of Physical Geography. Using the latest in satellite imagery and current statistical information, this book covers such topics as: the energy-atmosphere system; the water, weather, and climate systems; the earth-atmosphere interface; and soils, ecosystems, and biomes.


I would recommend this text for anyone who would like a general introduction to the wide discipline of physical geography. I’m using the text for a college-level course and it has proven to be useful. It is a pretty easy read and has nice recaps at the end of each chapter. There are a lot of pictures too, which is nice for visualizing the various geographical concepts.

This book includes so much useful information that I would recommend it to anyone seeking to inform themselves in the workings of the environment on every level. It is ultimately a textbook for a generalized survey course of many aspects of the Earth but it can be a reference tool for many of the formulas used in Environmental Sciences.

it’s a good science book. the pictures are bright and vivid. i brought the book for a class where i relied on it a lot. There wasn’t many dislikes from the book. i found the cd in the back of the book a very helpful tool. Anamotions are awesome. i really got the understanding for more geographic concepts than before.

Description: Very good. Appearance of only slight previous use. Cover and... Very good. Appearance of only slight previous use. Cover and binding show a little wear. All pages are undamaged with potentially only a few, small markings. Help save a tree. Buy all your used books from Thriftbooks. Read. Recycle and Reuse!