The Exam Style

Multiple choice, true/false, completion, short list, short definition, lab-style problems, essay / sketching / drawing, map calculations / identification, identification of surface landforms from slides. The quiz will focus on new material from mid-term, but with basic fundamental questions related to theme concepts covered early in the class.

Recommended Study Techniques

1) go over pre-lab questions / study them
2) review the "How to Study" sheet handed out at beginning of term
3) use the concepts below as a guide to help you focus on your notes
4) memorize terms and concepts
5) go back over the labs and make sure you can do the tricks / skills
6) review some of the important figures in your lab manual and text
7) go to the lab and look at the lab answer keys, and study the physical models / displays.
8) review the techniques for working with maps / air photos
9) Go over and study the Moodle practice quiz questions (**mass wasting, rivers, glaciers, deserts**)
10) give your dog a bath
11) drink water

KEY WORDS

Topo Map Review

topographic maps
north arrow
magnetic declination
map scale
fractional scale
graphical scale
longitude latitude
township-range-section
equator
prime meridian
parallels
angular measurement
7.5 min quadrangle
contour interval
index contour
law of V's / streams
air photos
stereovision

Landscape Analysis

Four Criteria:
Landform
Material

Age
Process
Bedrock vs. regolith
Wind-water-ice-gravity
Upland vs. Valley bottom
Hillslope
Active Channel
Floodplain
Terrace

Soil/Mass Wasting

bedrock
soil
regolith
colluvium
alluvium
drift
lacustrine
anthropogenic
aeolian
clay
mass wasting
slope gradient
angle of repose
creep
slide
flow
debris flow

mud flow
landslide
debris slide
solifluction
slump
rock fall

Rivers

Rivers / fluvial
stream gradient
channel
floodplain
oxbow lake
meandering
levees
cutoff
cutbank
floodplain
terrace
stream gradient
bedload
suspended load
dissolved load
braided
straight
normal discharge
flood discharge
capacity vs. competence

dendritic
trellis
radial
alluvial fans
deltas
base level
watershed
drainage divide

Hydrologic Cycle

hydrologic cycle
precipitation
evaporation
advection
convection
infiltration
evapotranspiration
condensation
vegetative interception
runoff
soil moisture
ground water
surface water
rivers
lakes
oceans
atmospheric moisture
glaciers / ice budget
biologic water

Glaciers

glaciers
snowfields
snow-firn-ice
global ice budget
alpine glaciers
continental glaciers
cirque glaciers
piedmont glaciers
ice sheets
ice shelf
temperate glacier
polar glacier
basal slip
internal ice flow
crevasse / fracture
transverse crevasse
longitudinal crevasse

glacial surging
snow line
zone of accumulation
zone of ablation
ice advance
ice retreat
static equilibrium
glacial erosion
plucking
abrasion
rock flour
glacial striations
u-shape valleys
v-shape valleys
hanging valleys
paternoster lakes
cirque
tarn
fjords
aretes
horn
col
roche moutenee
glacial pavement
drift
till
outwash
sorted / stratified
unsorted / unstratified
moraine
lateral moraine
medial moraine
end moraine
terminal moraine
recessional moraine
ground moraine
glacial erratics
outwash plain
kettles
drumlins
eskers
kames
glacial climate
interglacial climate
climate change
Pleistocene glaciation
Oxygen Isotope record
Laurentide Ice Sheet
Glacial / Pluvial Lakes
Milankovitch Theory

Deserts

arid climate
desert
semi-arid
polar deserts
sub-tropical deserts
orographic / rain shadow effect
Playa lakes
salt flats
pluvial lakes
differential erosion
butte
mesa
Inselbergs
pediments
badlands
piedmont
mountain front
alluvial fan
bajada
bolson
closed drainage
arroyo
aeolian
deflation
blow outs
ventifacts
desert pavement
desert varnish
sand dune
erg
dune morphology
wind direction
barchan dune
parabolic dune
transverse dune
longitudinal dune
loess
desertification

Questions for Thought

Do you know how to deal with maps?... profiles, map reading, directions, topography, contour lines, elevations?
Can you calculate a stream gradient? I.D. a channel pattern and drainage pattern.   What about simple unit conversions?
What's the difference between a floodplain and a terrace?
What are drainage divides and how are watersheds defined?
What are the hazards associated with mass wasting and rivers?
Can you draw, label, and discuss the hydrologic cycle in detail?
Draw a matrix summary of the landslide classification system based on material and process.
How do glaciers and glacial ice form?
Why do glaciers flow?
How does the global ice budget relate to sea level / vice versa?   How does it relate to climate?
What are the physical differences between a temperate and polar glacier?
What are the erosional and depositional effects of glaciation at the earth's surface?
How does a fluvial-dominated landscape compare to a glacial-dominated landscape?
What are the diagnostic landforms associated with alpine glaciers vs. continental glaciers?
How has glaciation affected North America over the past 2 million years?
How are glaciations related to sea level fluctuations?
What are the precipitation / vegetative characteristics of a "desert"?   Are all deserts hot?
How are landforms in a desert different from humid climates and why?

2. Lab Skills to Work On

Locate positions on a map?
I.D. contour interval, hills, valleys, etc?
Calculate stream gradient?
recognize steep vs. gentle topography?
azimuth vs. quadrant compass bearings?
Location by township, range, section?
Identify basic river features: e.g. floodplain, channel, oxbow, terrace, braided river, meandering river
How about seeing airphotos in 3-D?
Drawing contour lines in general (interpoloating points of constant elevation).
Calculating gradients from maps.
Calculating groundwater gradients.
Measuring distances, directions, and scales on a topographic map.
Reading contour lines / elevations from a topographic map.
Determining gradients from a topographic map (slope gradients, stream gradients).
Calculating basic rates of process (change in process per unit time: e.g. rate of delta growth, rate of coastal erosion, rate of uplift, etc.)
Interpreting aerial photographs / seeing in stereoscopic vision.
Identifying actual landforms from slides / photos.
Identifying landforms and geomorphic processes on topographic maps (e.g. glacial forms, karst forms, river forms, desert forms, etc.).
Determining the direction of ice flow from drumlins, or from terminal / end moraine patterns.
Can you label and identify landforms from different climates on a block model?
Can you identify landforms from slides / photographs?