

# Geography 110-001

## The Blue Planet: An Introduction to Earth's Environmental Systems

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Fall 2021

Carolina Away—Remote Only

MWF 9:05-9:55am

Instructor: Karly Schmidt-Simard

*GEOG 110: The Blue Planet* will provide you with an introduction to physical geography and environmental systems science. This course covers the major components of the earth system — the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. Driving questions that we will address in this course include: What drives Earth's processes? Why do we see certain patterns of climates and plants on Earth's surface? How are different parts of Earth connected? Where do humans fit into environmental systems? This course will help you to gain a better understanding of your natural surroundings and recognize how your local environment (wherever you are!) fits into regional and global environmental systems.

Image: Earthrise as captured by NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter on October 12, 2015. This composite image shows the Sahara Desert, Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and coasts of Africa and South America. Clouds, an important component of the earth system, are also clearly visible.

Source: <https://www.nasa.gov/image-feature/goddard/lro-earthrise-2015>

