

In the online version of GEOG 115, students post on two discussion boards per week. The first discussion board looks at landforms in UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This is a screenshot of the ANGEL page that introduces students to the parks.

Glacial landscapes as UNESCO's World Heritage Sites

Settings Reports Utilities Submissions Delete

Print My Notes | Previous Next Up Top Inde

As this is a course in World Landforms, it is only appropriate we spend a little time on exploring glacial landscapes at different locations across the globe. We will focus our exploration on glacial regions that are part of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

As a refresher, here is the link for the [UNESCO](#) website and the [UNESCO's World Heritage Centre](#).

I hope you have handy the Google Earth file from Unit 2, the KMZ file that contains all the World Heritage Sites. Keep the file handy for this and future discussion boards.

Please explore the following two World Heritage Sites in Google Earth, through these videos, and on the UNESCO website.

Sangay National Park ([UNESCO link](#)) ([article](#) with additional photos)



This is the discussion board for the UNESCO World Heritage Site landforms. Students must respond to a previous post before posting their own thoughts/reflections.

GEOG 115 Online (SP10): World Landforms

Syllabus Calendar **Lessons** Resources Communicate Report Manage

Home ▶ Course ▶ Lessons ▶ UNIT 4 - Glaciation ▶ SUBMIT: Discuss World Heritage Sites with glacial topography DR. LAURA GUERTIN

SUBMIT: Discuss World Heritage Sites with glacial topography

Settings Reports Utilities Submissions Delete Print My Notes | Previous Next Up Top In

New Post Threaded View

Navigate: All posts

[\[-\] Directions](#)

DIRECTIONS for posting on this discussion board: This will be a little different than the other postings you have done, and ONLY this UNESCO board will be different (please do the other postings as you have always done). For this posting, you will "reply" to the previous student posting and their thoughts/comments. So you will click on the most recent posting, which will be at the bottom of the page (be sure to open the "+" sign so that you see all postings). After you click on it, read what your fellow student has written. **(1) RESPOND** to what your fellow student has written (whether you agree or not, and why/why not). Then, in the same post, **(2) RESPOND** by starting another paragraph with your individual answer to the following question. (*note - if you are the first person to post this week, you do not have to respond to a prior posting (since there obviously won't be one!)). Email me with any questions if you are confused with the format. *****SCROLL DOWN TO SEE WHAT QUESTION YOU MUST ANSWER.**

OK, here is what you will answer...

The presence of the glaciers are an integral part of the ecosystems in these parks. Provide some examples as to how and why the glaciers are important to the ecosystem. Then, provide your educated opinion as to what the impacts will be on the ecosystems once the glaciers disappear. Provide information about both of the two parks in your response to receive credit.

(Remember, first you respond/react to what the most recent student post said and what their justification was, then you post your answer to the question in the same post)

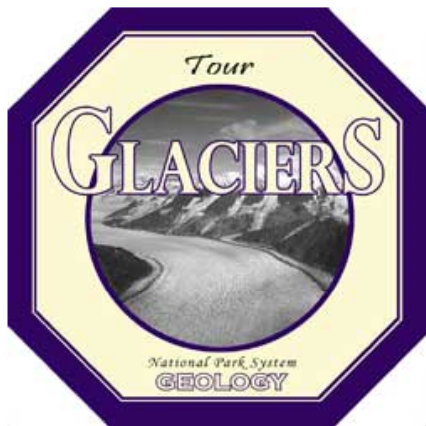
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This is the second discussion board students must respond to each week. As the first discussion board focuses on global sites, this one examines domestic sites that are part of the National Park system. Students must first learn about the landforms at three different national parks.

Glacial systems in the national parks

[Settings](#) [Reports](#) [Utilities](#) [Submissions](#) [Delete](#)

[Print](#) [My Notes](#) | [Previous](#) [Next](#) [Up](#) [Top](#) [In](#)



Glacial systems are a common geologic theme in many of our nation's national parks. For this unit, we will focus on three parks that have glacial landforms in their past and/or present: [Acadia National Park](#), [Denali National Park](#), and the [Glacier National Park](#). Be sure you can locate all of these parks and recreation areas on a map. You can search for them in Google Earth, and I also suggest searching for and viewing their locations in the PBS - The National Parks-America's Best Idea [Parks Explorer](#).

Here are links to some geologic specific information about each site:

Acadia National Park (continental glaciation landforms): [geology fieldnotes](#)

Denali National Park (active, alpine glaciation): [geology fieldnotes](#)

Glacier National Park (active, alpine glaciation): [geology fieldnotes](#)

Your National Park reflection will focus on air quality in glacial systems. Visit each park's website, on the left side click on "Nature & Science," then click on "Environmental Factors," then "Air Quality." (1) Compare the air quality in these three parks (list each park separately). (2) Does the presence of glaciers impact the quality of air? When the glaciers disappear, will the lack of glaciers impact air quality? Justify your thoughts and ideas.

Next, the students answer two questions. One question asks students to document the content they learned, while the second question requires some reflection and prediction.

SUBMIT: National Park reflection

Settings Reports Utilities Submissions Delete

Print My Notes Previous Next Up Top Index

New Post Threaded View

Navigate: All posts

[\[-\] Directions](#)

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