

# LANDFORMS and LAND USE

## Physical Characteristics

- 1. Elevation** – height above sea level
- 2. Relief** – vertical difference between a high and low point
- 3. Slope** – horizontal distance between a high and low point
- 4. Valley Shape and Stream Flow** – work of water and gravity  
*Slope angle + volume of water + geologic setting = rate of erosion*
- 5. Vertical Zonation of Climate** – 3.5°F/1,000 ft. of change (related to #1 above)

## Influence on People

- 1. Barrier or Unifier** – fosters isolation or interaction
- 2. Distinction or Assimilation** – separation or mixing
- 3. Transportation/Communication** – ease and cost
- 4. Population Density**
- 5. Economic Activities**
- 6. Hazards** – natural and man-made