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COASTAL ENGINEERING

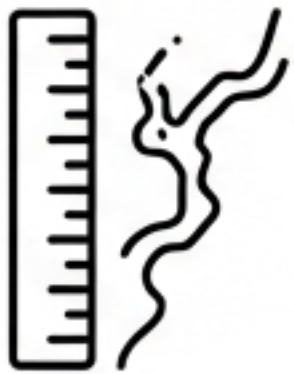
Fall 2025

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School of Engineering
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Our Nation's Coastal Footprint

40%

of the U.S. population
lives in coastal areas.



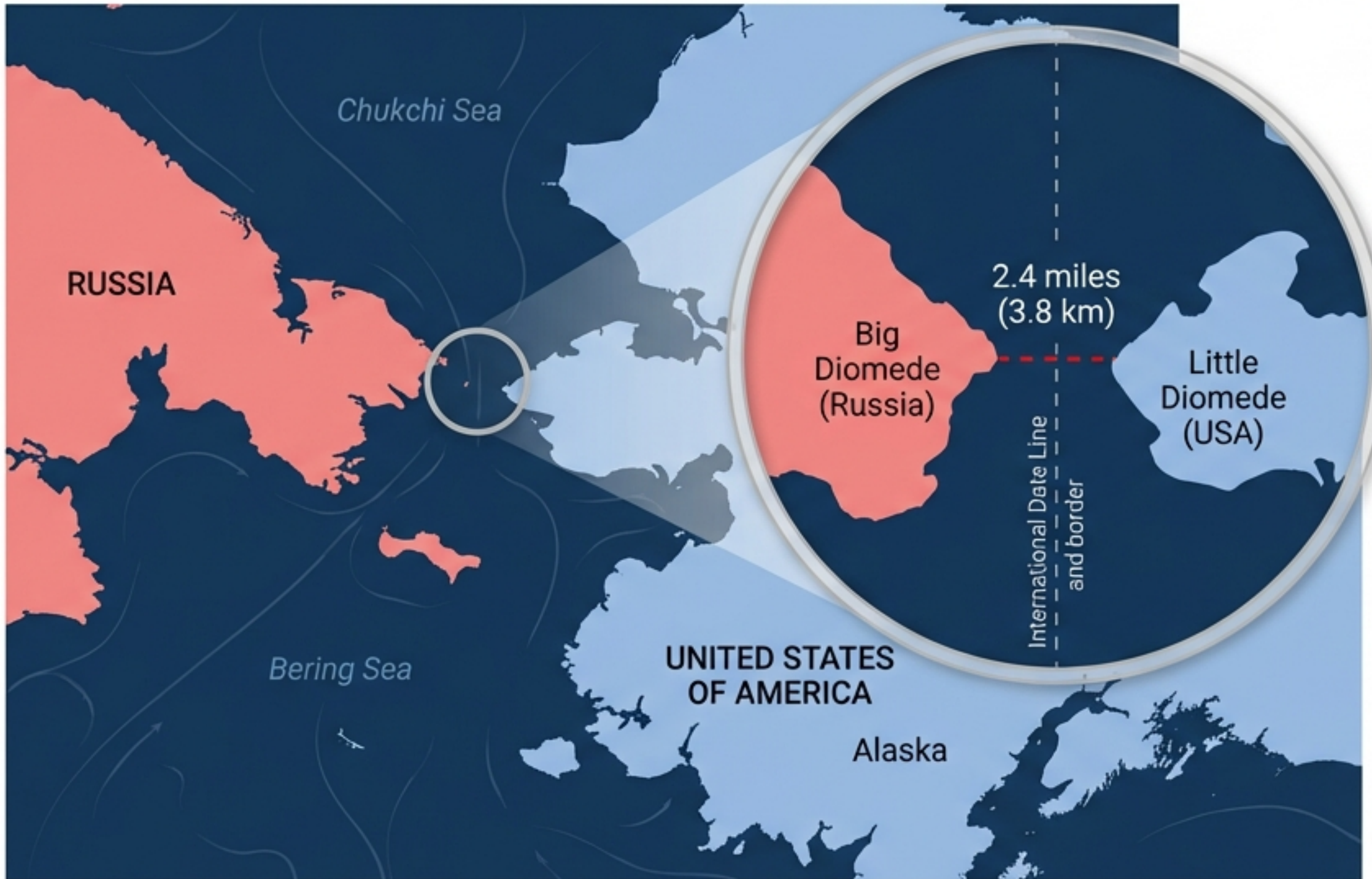
100,000 miles

of total coastline (Atlantic,
Gulf, Pacific, Alaska,
Hawai'i, Great Lakes).



Source: U.S.G.S.

A Global Perspective



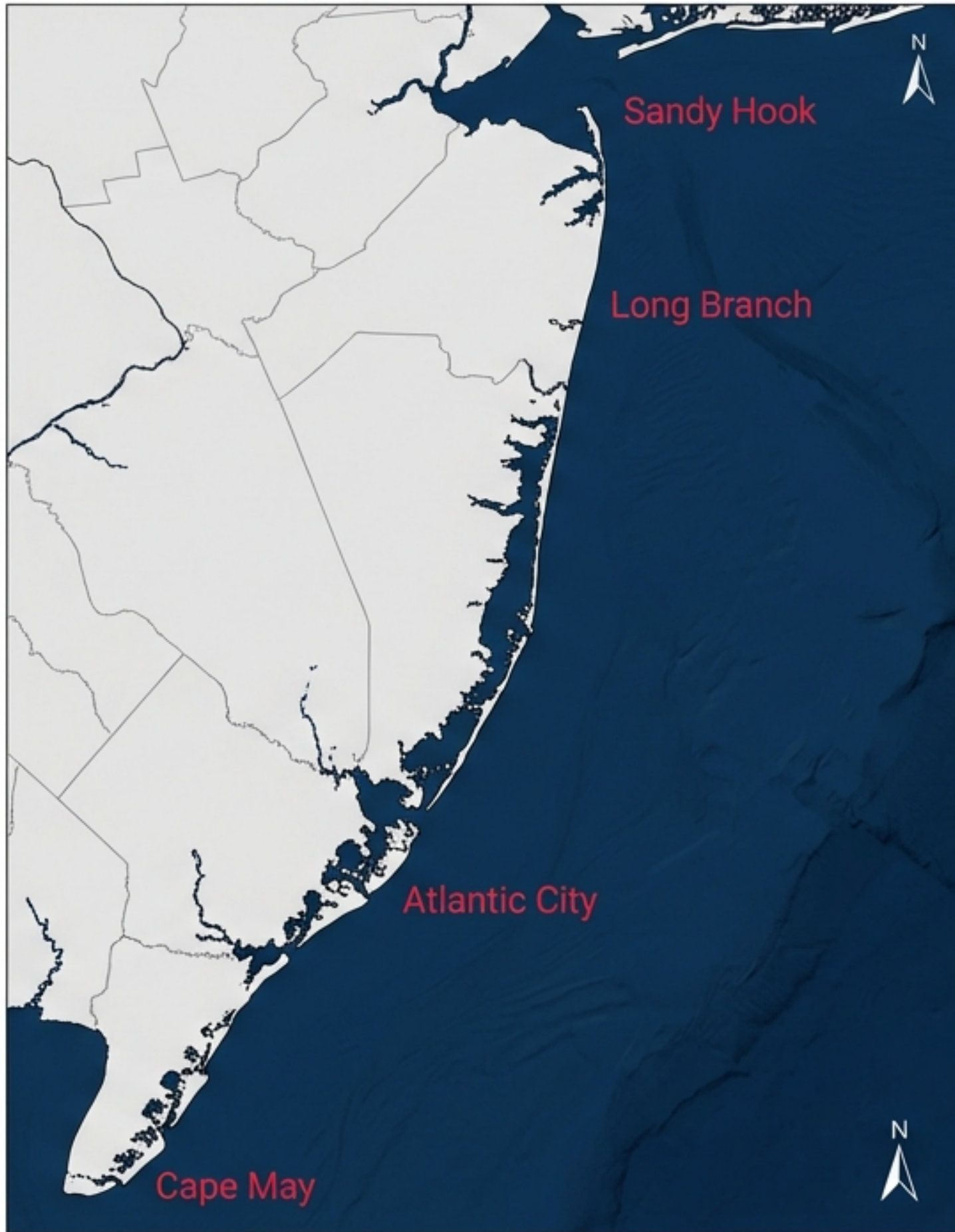
The world is smaller than it appears on a standard map. The shortest distance between the U.S. and Russia is only 2.4 miles, bridging the gap across the Bering Strait.

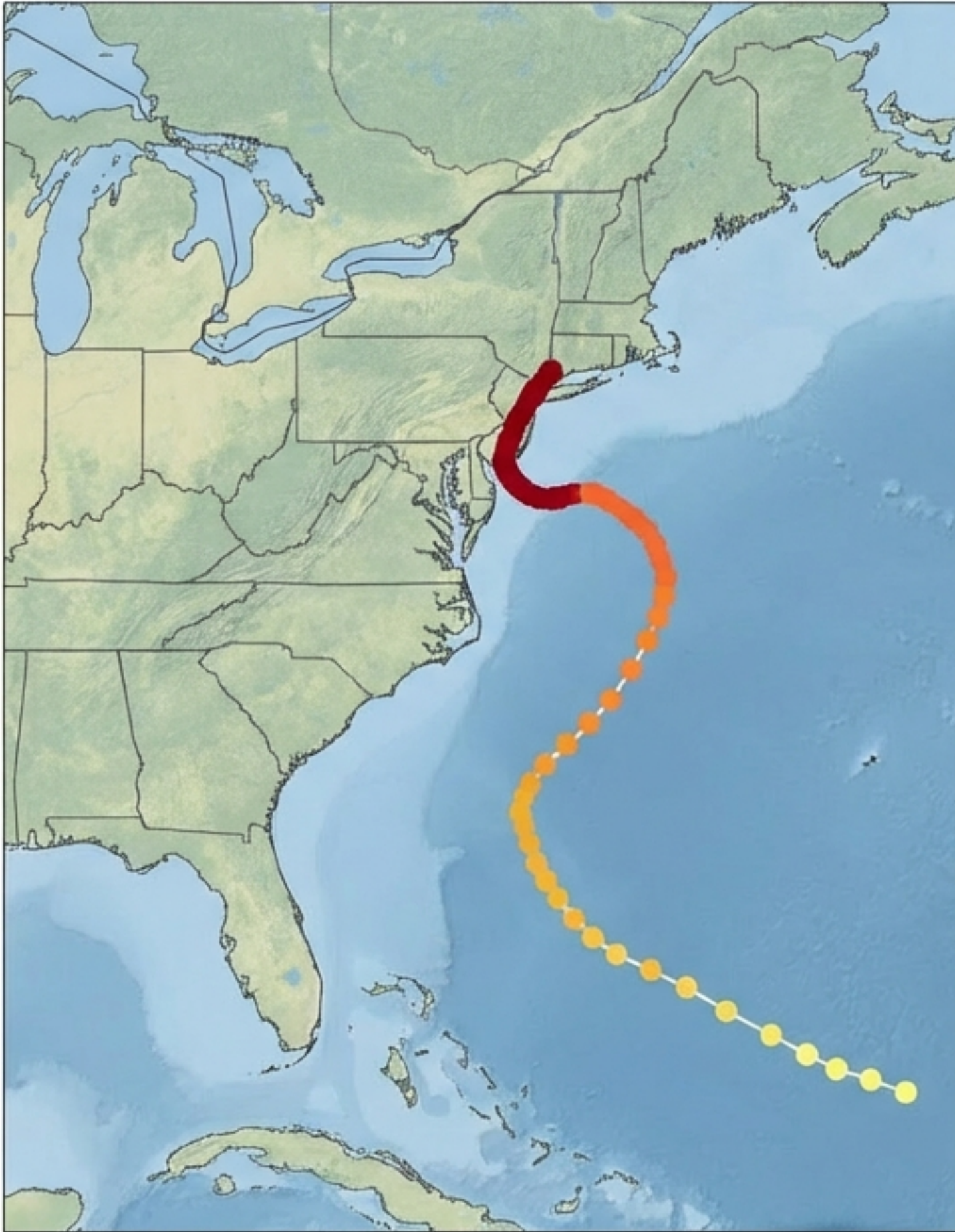
Map source: Wikipedia

Local Context: The Plumbi of New Jersey Shore

New Jersey is defined by its dynamic interaction with the Atlantic Ocean. The state features a complex system of barrier islands and coastal cities connected by critical infrastructure like the Garden State Parkway.

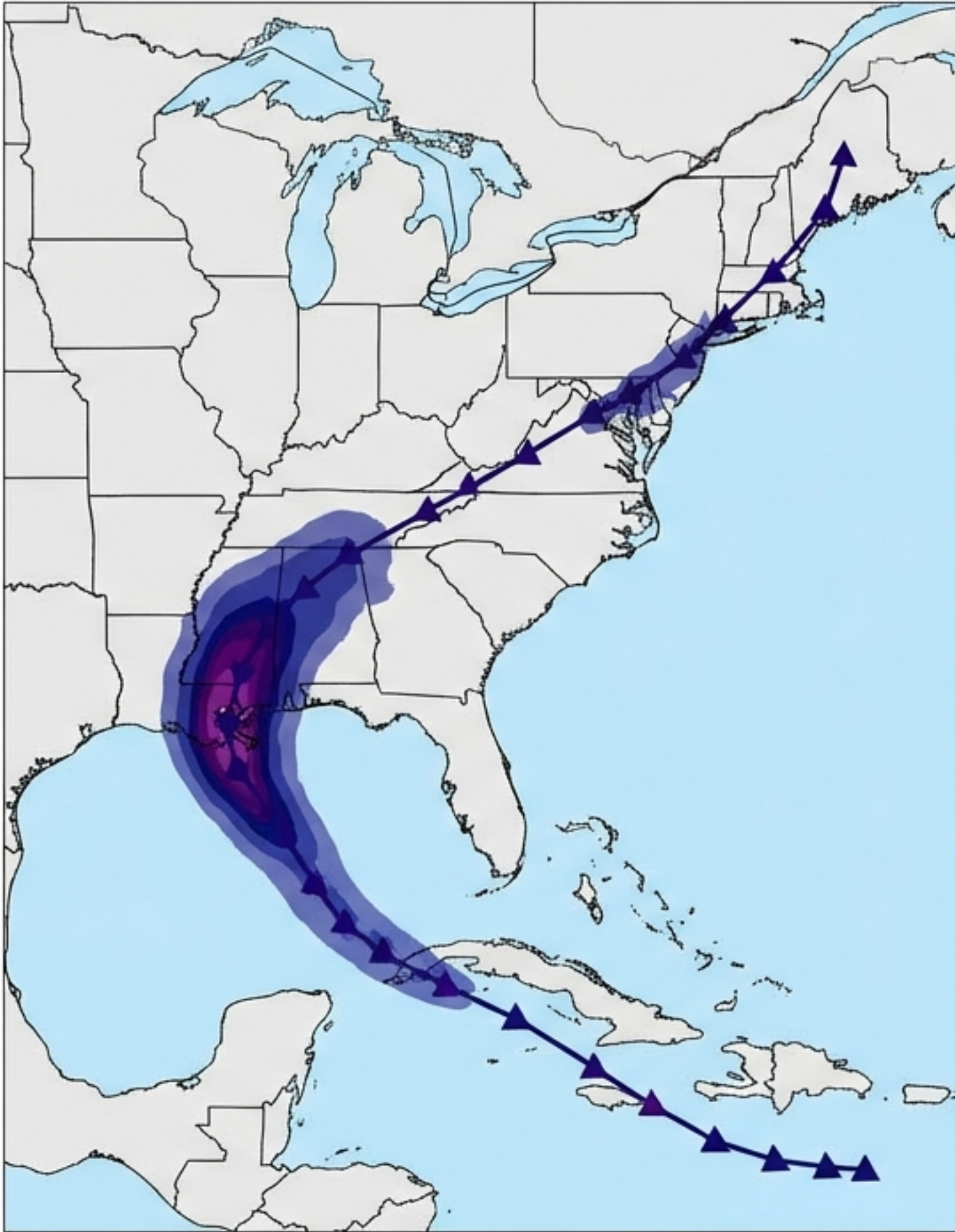
Source: U.S.G.S.





Case Study I: The Threat of Storm Surge

Event: Superstorm Sandy (October 2012)
Sandy illustrated the devastating power of the ocean moving inland. The storm abruptly veered toward the Greater New York City area, driving a record-breaking **Storm Surge** that overwhelmed coastal defenses.



Case Study II: The Threat of Torn Torrential Rain

Event: Hurricane Ida (August–September 2021)
Unlike Sandy, Ida's primary weapon was water from above. Even as a remnant storm, it delivered torrential rainfall across New Jersey and New York, triggering widespread and severe **Flash Flooding** in areas far from the coastline.

Part I: Understanding Coastal Processes



Introduction

Foundational
concepts and
scope



Tides

Gravitational
forces and
patterns



Estuarine Processes

Mixing of
freshwater and
saltwater



Waves

Energy transfer
and wave
dynamics



Coastal Processes

Sediment
transport and
landform change

Part II: Engineering & Management Solutions

Grey Structures



Topic 6: Grey/Hard Coastal Structures

Green Structures



Topic 7: Green/Soft Coastal Structures
(Nature-Based Solutions)

Topic 8: Contemporary Coastal Management

Essential Knowledge Base & Textbooks

Library E-Book

Coastal Engineering: Processes, Theory and Design Practice (3rd Ed.) - Reeve et al. (2018)

Library E-Book

Introduction to Coastal Engineering and Management (3rd Ed.) - Kamphuis (2020)

Library E-Book

An Introduction to Coastal Engineering - Isaacson (2024)

Library E-Book

Living Shorelines - Bilkovic et al. (2017)

On Reserve

Handbook of Coastal Engineering - Herbich (2000)

On Reserve

Estuary and Coastline Hydrodynamics - Ippen (1966)

On Reserve

Environmental Oceanography - Beer (1997)


Open Source

USACE Coastal Engineering Manual (CEM) (2002)

Course Instructor

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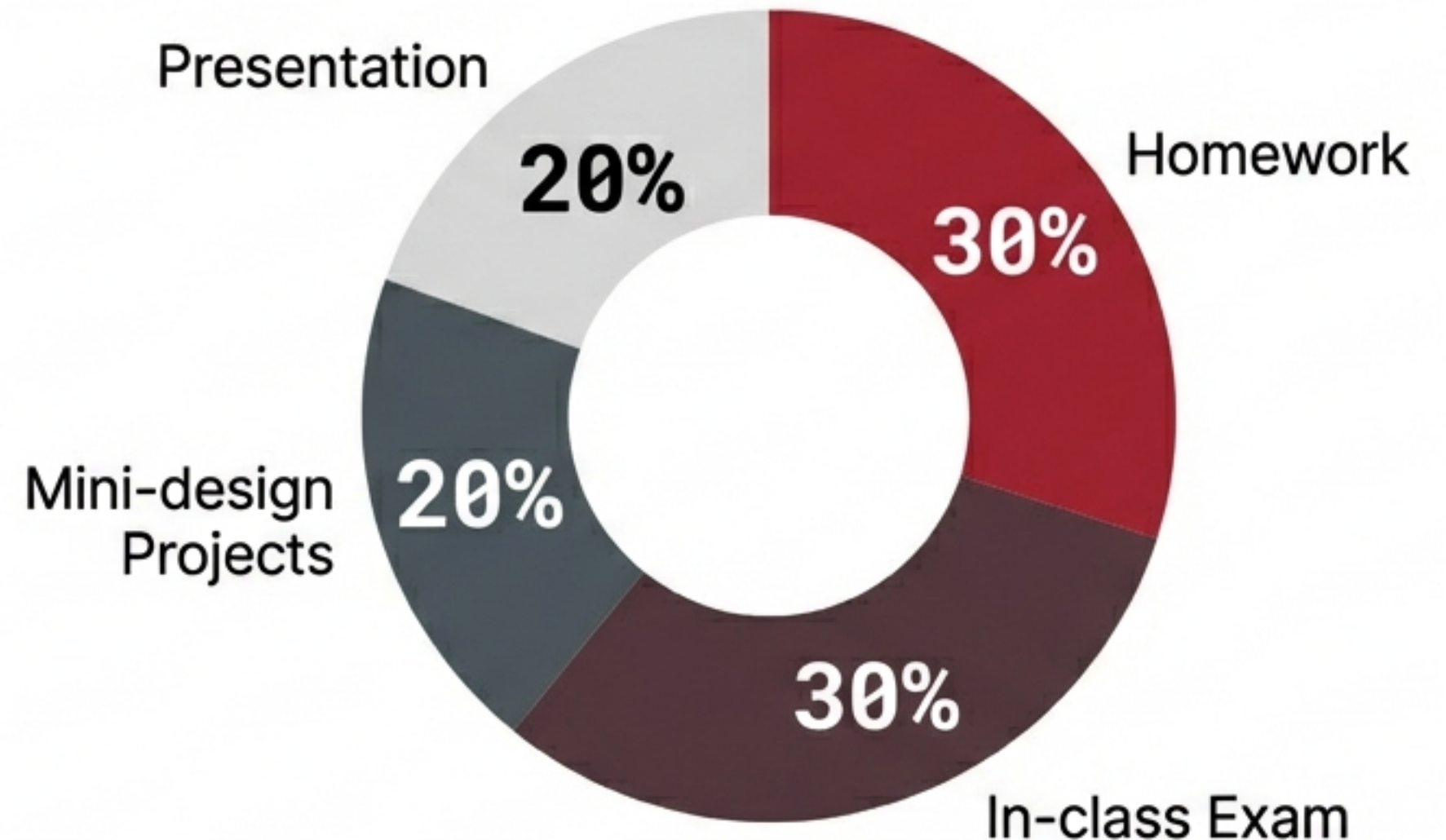
Office Hours: By appointment

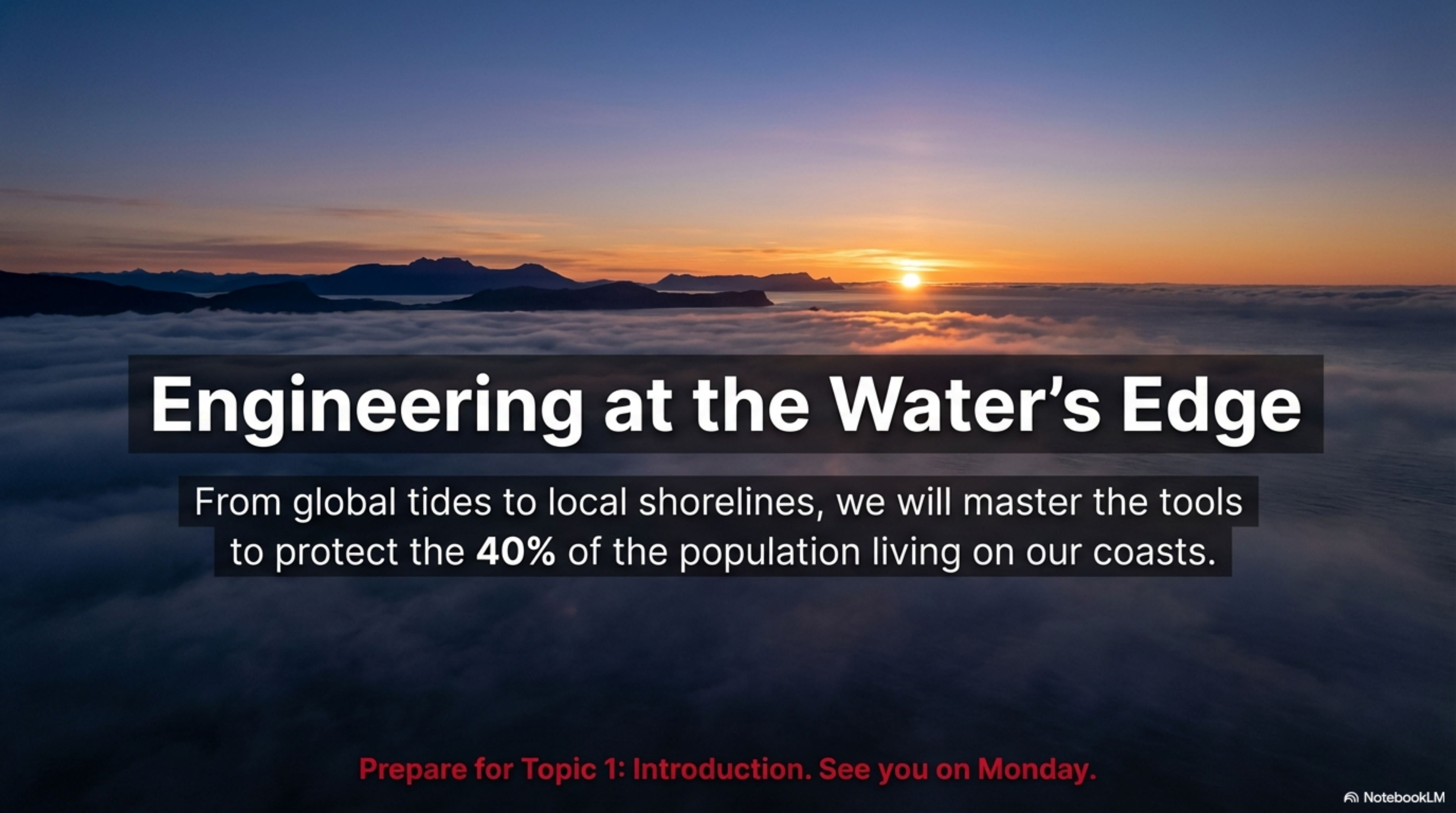
Schedule & Evaluation

Logistics

- Class Time: Mondays, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Location: Busch Campus, Weeks Hall 402

Evaluation





Engineering at the Water's Edge

From global tides to local shorelines, we will master the tools to protect the **40%** of the population living on our coasts.

Prepare for Topic 1: Introduction. See you on Monday.