

Geology 101 – Physical Geology, Spring 2005

Class Objectives and Information

Geology is both an applied, as well as research science. Elements of biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics are required to understand earth concepts. The course will be taught through lectures and related laboratory exercises. Lectures will cover information and concepts supplemented by laboratory exercises. Laboratory exercises will stress the application of geological problem solving and will be held periodically to reinforce specific concepts. The exercises are self-paced and you are encouraged to work together in groups. There are **no makeup labs**. Generally, there is no outside work required for this course except for the Observational Project explained below. The Dallmeyer text is excellent **and you will be expected to read about the information presented in class and listed on this syllabus. Expect exam questions from the text as well as lab exercises.**

Note that the lectures cover material not necessarily found in the Dallmeyer text. Therefore attendance is critical.
Optional reference: Hamblin and Christiansen, Earth's Dynamic Systems, 10th Edition, Prentice Hall, ISBN 013142066-6

Please! Turn off cell phones and pagers during class.

Field Trips

It is important to see geology in the field and examine the rocks, sediments and structures first hand so field trips will be a part of this course. Due to the late meeting time, the trip(s) will probably be scheduled for late in the semester because of the length of daylight. Dress for outdoor activities and according to the weather. All field trips involve walking!

Laboratory Exercise Notebook

The lab exercises are designed to help you understand specific concepts. There is no hand in work. HOWEVER, your lab exercises will be collected at the end of the semester as part of your grade. It will be graded based on completeness, correctness and neatness.

Observational Project

The science of geology began with people observing things in nature and questioning-why? Your project will involve making a simple observation and explaining the geologic process involved. This may be something you observe in your backyard or an experiment you build. It does NOT need to be elaborate or complicated. The primary objective is for you to pay attention to your surroundings and relate it to what you learn in this course. Your grade will be based on your understanding of the geologic process involved. The format is up to you. Feel free to discuss your project with me. **NO CLASS PRESENTATION IS REQUIRED.**

Good writing and communication is valued in this course and critical to you presenting yourself as an educated person. You **must** use correct spelling and grammar in your reports. All USCA computers have a grammar and spell check option in Word. You will lose points for incorrect grammar!

Testing and Grading

There will be two (2) lab quizzes, three (3) exams and a final exam. The final exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be multiple choice, true/false, label the figure and short answer. Your project will also count toward your final grade as well as your Laboratory Exercise Notebook. Your objective is to earn as many points as possible.

2 lab quizzes (25 each)	=	50 points
3 exams (50 each)	=	150 points
Observational Project	=	50 points
Lab Exercise Notebook	=	50 points
Final exam	=	100 points
TOTAL	=	400 points

Letter Grade Ranges: A = 400-360, B+ = 359-340, B = 329-320, C+ = 319-300, C = 299-280, D+ = 279-260, D = 259-240, 239 or less = F

Extra Credit Options

CSRAGS meetings (5 points each) will be announced periodically during the semester (last Tuesday of each month).
Topic discussion (5 points each) can be earned by leading the class in a discussion of a geologic event or topic.

(Keep a record of your earning extra credit)

If you have a physical, psychological, and/or learning disability which might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Office of Disability Services, 126A B&E, (803) 641-3609, as soon as possible. The Disability Services Office will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.

Contact Information: frank.syms@srs.gov (803) 952-6927

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Date Quiz/Exam Lecture Lab

10-Jan Introduction
12-Jan Earth and Earth's Systems
17-Jan HOLIDAY
19-Jan Minerals Ex1
24-Jan Minerals Ex2
26-Jan Mineral Quiz The Rock Cycle and Igneous Rocks Ex3/4
31-Jan Sedimentary Rocks Ex6
2-Feb Metamorphic Rocks Ex7
7-Feb Rock Quiz
9-Feb Geologic Time
14-Feb Structure Ex18
16-Feb Exam 1
21-Feb Weathering Ex5
23-Feb Ocean-Atmosphere System
28-Feb River Systems Ex8 Mapping
2-Mar Groundwater Ex13
7-Mar Shorelines Ex16
9-Mar SPRING BREAK
14-Mar SPRING BREAK
16-Mar Glaciers and Eolian Systems Ex14/15
21-Mar Slopes and Mass Wasting
23-Mar Exam 2
28-Mar Plate Tectonics Isostasy
30-Mar Seismicity
4-Apr Plate Boundaries
6-Apr Hot Spots and Mantle Plumes
11-Apr Earth's Resources
13-Apr Geologic Hazards
18-Apr Exam 3
20-Apr Field Trip
25-Apr Field Trip
4-May FINAL 5:00 PM