

**Tentative Syllabus  
Environmental Geology - 103  
Spring 2008**

Lecturer: Dr. Robert Van Pelt  
after

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Office Hours: Immediately prior to or

class; other times by appointment

**Text:** "Introduction to Environmental Geology" Fourth edition (soft cover) by Edward A. Keller, Pearson Prentice Hall publisher

**Lab:** Exercises provided by the instructor; Independent Lab report (select environmental topic, prepare report (~15 page), and give a ~5-10 minute presentation)

**Course Objectives:** To introduce you to some of today's major environmental issues and to provide you with the geological background to understand and evaluate those issues.

**Course Grading:** based on four lecture exams, Lecture assignments, Lab Exercises, Independent Lab report/presentation, and class participation. Total of 100%.

Exam I-III = 45% (15% ea.); final exam = 15%, Lecture assignments = 5%; Lab exercises = 15 % Lab report = 15%; participation = 5%

Letter Grades are assigned according to standard scale: 90% and above = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; below 60 = F.

**Attendance is recommended.** Please review the University's policy on class attendance outlined in the 2007-2008 USCA Bulletin. The level of difficulty of a science course generally requires the attendance in order for the student to completely understand the material. Material presented in the lecture is intended to compliment the material presented in the text.

**Reading assignments:** assignments listed on the attached schedule are from the required text and should be completed prior to class. The student is responsible for all reading material assigned, any handouts, and material presented in the lecture.

**Make-up exams:** make-up exams will be offered only to those students who present acceptable written excuses to the instructor. Acceptable excuses are those recognized by the University and approved by the instructor. Make-up tests will cover the same material as the original exam, however, may differ in format (e.g. essay).

**Disability statement:** If you have a learning or physical disability which may affect your performance in this class, please inform the instructor as soon as possible and Dr. L. Matthews, Coordinator of Counseling Services in order to verify your status and provide you with appropriate assistance.

USCA provides a Writing Center (CLAS 201) to assist you in your writing. The Writing Center is staffed by friendly USCA students who are expert writers and who have been trained as writing consultants. If you need extra assistance on any writing assignment for this class or any other class you are taking, please try the Writing Center. You may make

an appointment or just drop in. Operating hours are posted on the door. Telephone number is 649-6851, ext. 3262.

Course Schedule: T, TH 6:00 - 8:40 pm USCA Science Building Room 212

Jan. 15T Introduction to Course  
17TH Chp.1 Fundamental Concepts  
22T Chp.2 Earth Structure & Plate Tectonics  
24TH Chp.2 cont.; Chp.3 Minerals & Rocks, Lab Exercise  
29T Chp.3 cont.; Mineral & Rock Lab Exercise cont.  
31TH Chp.4 Ecology & Geology  
Feb. 05T **Exam 1 (Chps.1-4)**  
07TH Chp.5 Natural Hazards  
12T Chp.6 Earthquakes  
14TH Chp. 6 cont.; Chp. 7 Volcanoes, Lab Exercise  
19T Chp.7 cont.; Chp. 8 Rivers & Floods  
21TH Chp.8 cont.; Chp. 9 Slope & Landslides  
26T Chp.9 cont.; Chp.10 Coastal Processes, Lab Exercise  
28TH Chp.10 cont.; select Independent Lab report topic  
Mar. 04T **Exam 2 (Chps. 5-10)**  
06TH Chp.12 Water Resources, Lab Exercise  
**11T-13TH SPRING BREAK NO CLASS**  
18T Chp.12 cont.; Chp.13 Water Pollution, Lab Exercise  
20TH Chp.13 cont.; Chp. 14 Mineral Resources  
25T Chp.14 cont.; Chp.15 Energy Resources  
27TH Chp.15 cont.; Lab Exercise  
Apr. 01T Chp.16 Soils & Environment  
03TH **Exam 3 (Chps. 12-15)**  
08T Chp.16 cont.; Chp.17 Waste Management, Lab Exercise  
10TH Chp.17 cont.; Chp. 18 Air Pollution  
15T Chp.18 cont.; Chp. 19 Global Climate Change  
17TH Chp.19 cont.; Chp.20 Geo. Society & Future  
22T Independent Lab report presentations  
24TH Independent Lab report presentations cont.  
May 06T **Final Exam (Chps. 16-20)**