**CLASS SYLLABUS**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE**

Department of Geological Sciences

Environmental Geology Instructor: Dr. Ali Tabidian

Geology 300, Spring 2014 (ali.tabidian@csun.edu)

Text**: Living With Earth** Office: Live Oak Hall 1232

(Travis Hudson) Telephone: (818) 677-2536

Office hours: 0800-0930 TTh

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course is intended to provide a better understanding of natural geologic systems, processes, and hazards; and the adverse impact of humans on the geologic environments and how to minimize these impacts.

**QUIZZES AND GRADING**

- Homework (due date: May 8), in-class assignments (50 points)

- QUIZ#1, 100 points

- QUIZ#2, 100 points

- QUIZ#3 (final), 100 points

The questions are mostly associated with the weekly outlines and the review sections and questions. Reviewing the textbook chapters will help you to understand the geologic concepts documented in weekly outlines and the review questions for the exams.

No “make-up” quizzes or assignments. However, under special circumstances, such as a medical excuse that can be verified, make-up and late exams will be considered; it may be in the form of essay type questions.

- Each quiz will be composed of mostly true/false and multiple choice questions.

(#2 pencil and scantron form # 19641)

- The grades will not be curved.

- To be fair to all, I cannot offer any extra credit projects for an individual in the class.

- Through reading the chapters and the associated supplemental material (provided through the access code), you'll learn more and you'd do better on the tests-

Plus-minus grading will be utilized for this course based on a percentage of the 350 points as follows: (Total earned points/3.5)

A 95-100 C 70-73

A- 90-94 C- 66-69

B+ 86-89 D+ 62-65

B 82-85 D 57-61

B- 78-81 D- 50-56

C+ 74-77 F 0-49

**TOPICS**  **CHAPTER** 1 Introduction/Population 1

2 Plate Tectonics 3 3 Minerals and Rocks 4

4 Mineral and Rock Resources 12

5 Earthquakes 5

**QUIZ#1: (February 27)**

6 Volcanoes 6

**7** Oceans and Coasts 9

8 Streams and Flooding 7

9 Water Resources/Pollution 10

10 Water Resources/Pollution 10

**QUIZ#2: (April 3)**

11 Soil Resources 11

12 Unstable Land 8

13 Energy Resources 13

14 Alt. Energy Sources 13

15 Environmental Impact/Waste Disposal 15

**9:30 AM class QUIZ#3 (FINAL): May 13 (Tues.) 0800-10000**

**12:30 PM class QUIZ#3 (FINAL): May 15 (Thurs.) 1245-1445**

- The grade of incomplete (I) will not be used for this course.

- Dropping: Read the Schedule of Classes and follow the guidelines and the deadlines. If you decide that you don’t want to continue with this course, you must drop the class. You will not be automatically dropped if you simply stop participating in class activities.

- Late homework and other assignments **will not** be graded.

- No “make-up” quizzes or assignments.

- Cheating in any form will not be tolerated, and will be treated in accordance with the University policy as documented in the “University Catalog” and in the “Schedule of Classes”.

- It is the responsibility of each student in this course to know and follow all guidelines given by the instructor.

- The above schedule and the course policy are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

- Please respect your instructor and fellow classmates by reserving your grades or complaints/personal concerns about the class to private conversations/emailings with the instructor.

**Ethical behavior:**

It is understood that all students will demonstrate the highest ethical behavior. This includes respect for other students and the professor.

**Students with disabilities:**

Students with disabilities must register with the Center on Disabilities and complete a services agreement each semester. Staff with the Center will verify the existence of a disability based on the documentation provided and approve accommodations. The Center on Disabilities is located in Bayramian Hall, room 110. Staff can be reached at (818) 677-2684.

**E-mailing: (ali.tabidian@csun.edu)**

Whenever possible, you are encouraged to come to my office (office hours and by appointment).

E-mail should be used for the following:

- to alert me if there is an emergency

- to alert me that you are confused about a concept and would like to have a conference and/or an office visit

- to communicate personal concerns and class-related issues

E-mail should NOT be used to ask me:

- to write you a summary of concepts documented in the textbook or discussed in the class.

- to discuss a concept or idea that has been already documented and discussed in the course outline.

- to give you a due date or discuss class policy documented in this syllabus and/or posted online.