Welcome to Geology of Planet Earth
GEOL 101 – Fall 2018

Professor: Priya Ganguli  priya.ganguli@csun.edu
Office: BK 211  2nd Floor of Bookstore inside CGST (BK-200)
Office Hours: Mondays 2-3 PM
Tuesdays 10-11 AM
in my office or in the BK-200 Conference Room

If you can’t make office hours, please email me to set up an individual appointment!

I teach two sections of GEOL 101:
Mon & Wed 9:30 - 10:45 AM
Live Oak (LO), Rm 1231
Final Exam: Wed, Dec 12th
8:00-10:00 AM in LO 1231
Mon & Wed 11:00 – 12:15 AM
Live Oak (LO), Rm 1231
Final Exam: Wed, Dec 12th
10:15-12:15 AM in LO 1231

Field Trips: Two Weekend Fieldtrips (tentative dates)
Sunday, Oct 7th   Aquarium of the Pacific (Long Beach, CA)
Saturday Nov 10th  San Andres Fault & Vasquez Rocks (Palmdale, CA)

(eBook or hardcopy – earlier versions also OK, but check subject order)

If you are new to CANVAS (as I am!), check out this helpful student guide to familiarize yourself with this tool for our class:  https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701

Don't let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It's your place in the world; it's your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live.

— Mae Jemison —

Dr. Mae Carol Jemison is an American engineer, physician and NASA astronaut.
A bit about the course objectives...
This course will introduce you to geology, the scientific study of the origin, history, and structure of the earth. Through the study of ordinary rocks, topographic features, and natural events, you will gain a deeper and more critical understanding of the active and dynamic world around you. When you have completed this course, you will have a basic understanding of Earth processes such as its origin in the solar system, plate tectonic theory, and Earth materials. You will learn about hazards in your environment including earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides, as well as energy and mineral resources and how they apply to you as a resident of southern California and the world. Geology incorporates traditional concepts in chemistry, mathematics, and physics applied to the study of mineral compositions and physical tectonic processes. Material covered in this course is presented at a level appropriate for a college freshman who is not a science major.

Professional geologists in industry, education, and research are particularly active in the state of California. This course will give you an overview of some of these fields including environmental science, engineering geology, hydrogeology, atmosphere and oceanographic science, earthquake geology, and geophysics.

A few things to help you along the way
This class has no prerequisites, but it is a college-level science class. It should not be overwhelming if you approach it right way. Here is my best advice:
 Show up to class every day and turn in all assignments
 Pay attention in class and participate in discussions
 Take thorough notes during lecture
 Review your notes after each class and make sure you can understand what you wrote
 Read the book and seek out other resources (internet, my office hours)
 Meet with a study group often and quiz each other

Special Services
If you have a disability and need accommodations, please register with Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) in Bayramian Hall 110 (818-677-2684) or with the NCOD: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services department in Bertrand Street in Jeanne Chisholm Hall (818-677-2611); https://www.csun.edu/dres/register-services. If you would like to discuss your need for accommodations, please contact me to set up an appointment.

We’re in this together!
Please be attentive and courteous - unless we are using electronic devices for class activities, please refrain from checking your phone and having side discussions when your colleagues or I am speaking.
Honor Code
Anyone taking a class at CSUN should be familiar with the Standards for Student Conduct (https://catalog.csun.edu/policies/student-conduct-code/), in particular the section on academic dishonesty. In this class, your name on any assignment, test, paper, or quiz, will be taken as your certification that you have neither given nor received unauthorized aid with the project. I encourage you to form study groups and work on assignments together. But the work you turn in must represent your own calculations and be written in your own words. Cheating will result in a zero grade for an exam or assignment and notification to the Dean of Students, which can result in disciplinary action.

Planning to Drop?
Please let me know as soon as possible if you decide to drop the class so others can enroll. A grade of incomplete (I) will not be used for this course. This class can fulfill a General Education (GE) requirement, but cannot be taken on a credit/no credit basis for this purpose.

How I’ll determine your grade

20% Homework Assignments (6-10)
You will receive 6-10 homework assignments – most of these will be on Canvas.

10% Lecture and Canvas Quizzes (4-6)
We will have 4-6 quizzes over the duration of the semester. These may be given in class or on Canvas (with a time limit), and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and/or fill in the blank.

10% Class Participation
Participation includes a combination of attending class, contributing to class discussions, being an engaged group member, attending office hours, asking questions (in class, office hours, via email), letting me know if there is a problem with an assignment (e.g., access, typos, clarity)

10% Field Trip Attendance and Reports (2-3)
Our class will go on two field trips. One will be a “Class Geo-Walk” during our normal lecture time. The other will be a Saturday field trip – I hope to have 2 options you can choose from.

10% Final Group Project & Presentation (1)
You will work in groups of 5-6 students to complete a project and presentation related to any topic in geology. Creativity encouraged! (e.g., rewrite the lyrics to a popular song, present a theatrical skit, poem, film a movie/video, present the results of a survey, or short experiment, etc.

20% Midterm Exams (2)
There will be two in-class midterm exams that will include a combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and/or fill in the blank.
Please bring Scantron Form # 19641 and a #2 pencil to all exams.

20% Final Exam (1)
The final exam will be cumulative and similar to the midterms in format.
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**Topics Covered:**

- [1] universe, solar system, Earth formation, Earth's interior
- [2] plate tectonics
- [4,5] igneous rocks, volcanoes
- [8] earthquakes, seismicity, and Earth's interior cont.
- [12] energy resources (and intro to climate change)
- [17] atmosphere & climate -- [18] glaciers & ice ages
- [19] global change
- **GROUP PRESENTATIONS**
- **FINAL EXAM**