Geology 101 Online
Geology of the Planet Earth
Spring 2019

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Textbook: Essentials of Geology, 5th edition; by Marshak  (See the Instructions below under “Considerations for online learning” for buying the text and/or ebook (either one comes with Smartworks5 access at no extra charge if you buy the hardcover version from the bookstore)

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday: 9:00-9:30 am, Tuesday: 2:30-3:30 pm and by appointment.

Meeting time: There are no required meeting times.

Course Objectives:
Geology of Planet Earth is a general survey course on the science of the Earth. This course is intended to provide you with a basic understanding of your natural surroundings so that you may better enjoy them and make informed decisions about the myriad of problems facing your physical environment. When you have completed this course, you will have gained a basic understanding of Earth materials (minerals and rocks) and of Earth processes such as plate tectonic theory. You will have learned about resources derived from the environment (fossil fuels and mineral ores) and hazards inherent in that same environment including earthquakes, volcanoes, and landslides. You will understand how Geology applies to you as a resident of southern California and the world. The level of difficulty of the material presented is appropriate for a college freshman who is not a science major, thus, anyone in the course should be able to earn a C or better if willing to put in the necessary study time. Geology is experiencing a boom-time growth surge in the areas of engineering geology, environmental geology, and groundwater geology, and there are many jobs available here in southern California and other places. The twin issues of energy and environment are critical to the world and are likely to remain so for many years to come. Therefore, if this course interests you, you may want to consider geology for your future career.

Considerations for online learning:
If you have never taken an online class before, I suggest that you take the “Student Online Readiness Survey” to see if this method of learning is right for you. (It is not right for everyone!) The survey is available on the Canvas Introduction Module for our class.

Technical Requirements for the class includes:

- Mac or PC not more than 3 years old with current operating system and current browser, Firefox seems to work best on PCs.
- Internet connection, broadband (DSL speeds) preferred, 56k modem will work

Recommended Skills for the class includes:

- Basic computer skills (use of word processor, email and file management)
- Basic internet skills (use of browser, searches, uploading and downloading files

It is of utmost importance that you become familiar with Canvas. To access a very thorough orientation to this internet courseware we will be using, go to https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/canvas-guide. You can refer to this guide anytime you need to.
You will be able to get access to Smartworks5, the system available through the publisher, when you sign into Canvas, our class number for Smartwork5 is 137889.

The schedule given below is a suggested schedule for you to use as a guide. Please bear in mind that although the lecture material is available for all chapters during the entire semester, there is a time limit on the availability of quizzes and exams.

**Suggested Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Introduction to Geology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Plate Tectonics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>Minerals</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 11</td>
<td>Magma and Igneous Rocks</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Volcanic Eruptions</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Exam 1, Available Feb 22-Mar 1 (Chapters 1-5)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 25</td>
<td>Sedimentary Rocks</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 4</td>
<td>Metamorphic Rocks</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 11</td>
<td>Earthquakes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 18</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>Geologic Structures</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 1</td>
<td>How old is Old?</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Exam 2, Available Mar 29-Apr 5 (Chapters 6-10)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 8</td>
<td>Energy and Mineral Resources</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Apr 15</td>
<td>Mass Wasting</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 22</td>
<td>Streams and Flooding</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 29</td>
<td>Groundwater</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Global Change in the Earth System</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Exam 3 (Final), Available May 3-10 (Chapters 12, 13, 14, 16, 19)</strong></td>
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**Quizzes and Exams:** There is one open book quiz associated with each chapter of the book. Each quiz is available up until the exam for that section of the class is due (also see the Calendar for the suggested schedule and deadlines**). Quizzes are worth a total of 20% of your grade. You must complete each quiz prior to progression to the next one, and there is a 30-minute time limit for each quiz. Quizzes are based on material in the textbooks and from the assigned reading and reading assignments, and homework.

**EXAMPLE:** Chapters 1-5 quizzes are available from January 22nd to March 1st, while Exam 1, which covers those 5 chapters, is only available from February 22 through March 1st. I am leaving scheduling up to you to accommodate your individual needs. It is tempting to wait until just before the deadline to complete all the work at once. DO NOT DO THIS! If you are taking the lab, you will not be prepared for the weekly assignments. Towards the end of the availability period for the section of material you are working on, I will make the next set of quizzes available, so you can continue to work ahead. All three exams are open book exams, and are worth a total of 60% of your grade and are NOT cumulative. The usual period for the exams is 2 to 2½ hours. You may take the exams and quizzes anytime within the availability period.

The exam schedule is given below:

- Exam 1: Feb 22-Mar 1 20%
- Exam 2: Mar 29-Apr 5 20%
- Exam 3 (Final): May 3-10 20%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Reading Quizzes: 10%
- Homework: 10%
- Total: 100%

**Deadlines are not suggested, they are strictly adhered to.**
Grading Scale:

100-93.5=A, 93.4-90=A-, 89.4-86.5=B+, 86.4-83.5=B, 83.4-80=B-, 79.4-76.5=C+, 76.4-73.5=C, 73.4-70=C-, 69.4-66.5=D+, 66.4-63.5=D, 63.4-60=D-, ≤59.4=F

The Reading Quizzes are assignments found on Smartwork5 that will have no time limit but a maximum of 5 attempts. If you complete the quizzes successfully before you use up the 5 attempts you will receive a complete and do that for all 15 chapters you will receive 10% or a part of that if you do a portion of the chapters. In other words, you have to complete the chapter to get credit for that chapter.

Homework (also found on Smartwork5) includes videos and drag and drop type exercises and multiple choice questions for additional work and practice on the chapter. You will have 3 attempts for each question or exercise assigned in the homework.

You should do both the Reading quiz and Homework for each chapter before you attempt the chapter quiz. The quiz for each chapter will be timed (30 minutes) and you will only have 2 attempts for each question.

The exam for each section of the class will be just like the quizzes, just longer. There will be more questions and the time limit will be between 2 to 2 ½ hours depending on the number of questions. There will only be one attempt for each question. Remember for all of these assignments, quizzes and exams I am expecting you to use your textbook and any notes you have made as you have studied.

I would suggest that you buy the ebook for this class. There are links to animations and videos directly from the book and you can write notes right in your book. I can write you notes within the text, as well that you can access.

For this reason, and that this book is very well written, I am not going to post powerpoint lectures because you will get all you need from the textbook and its extras. I will be posting information and pointing out important information in the text, too. The ebook is the cheapest version, too. You can buy it by clicking on the first Smartwork5 Link on Canvas and you will be directed to the Smartworks5 sign-in page. You will have to buy access to the ebook there (this will give you the registration code you will need to enter to get the access to all the exercises and other things from the publisher) or if you buy the text from the Bookstore this is where you will input your registration code that comes with it. (If you do buy the hard copy of the text, you will not get the messages that I post within the text or have the links to the videos and animations or links to places in Google Earth the text sends you to.

If you have any technical problems, let me know immediately. DO NOT panic as I do not penalize you for technical problems. I will reset the quiz or exam and give you the time you need to complete the assignment.

Please NOTE: No extra credit will be offered. Please spend your time doing your best on the quizzes and exams and other required work.

Rules of Conduct: Since the student participation is done through email, discussion board, group assignments, and the like, it is necessary to spell out rules of netiquette: Examples of items which can be included:

Student's responses are to be culturally and socially sensitive.

Student's may disagree with a response, but not take personal issue with the student.

Appropriate language is to be used: No slang, expletives, bad language.
Dropping - Read the Schedule of Classes. 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 doing the work.

Additional Information-
I adhere to CSUN’s policy on academic dishonesty. Cheating and plagiarism will result in the assignment of a zero for the exam and notification to the Office of Vice President of Student Affairs which may result in disciplinary action. Plagiarism is knowingly representing work done by others as one’s own.

Other Key Points–

Your grade is non-negotiable. You will know where you stand in the class and this will allow you to keep up with your grade during the semester. If you would like to see me during the semester, that is what my office hours are for and I will gladly work with you on how to study more effectively. By the last week or two of class, it is too late to consult on grades. I do not give you a grade, you earn it.

It is the responsibility of each student in this course to know and follow all written guidance given by the instructor in this class.
These policies and schedules are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.