

PHYSICAL GEOLOGY (GEOLOGY 102)

Course Syllabus Spring, 2010

MWF 11:30-12:30 Halsey 106

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Wenner
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Office Hours: M 1:50-2:50, T 8-9, W 12:40-2:50 and by appointment.

Required Texts: Marshak, Stephen, 2009, *Essentials of Geology*, Third Edition, W. W. Norton & Co., New York, NY, 628 p. (This text is also available as an **Ebook** for about half the price – see: <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/geo/egeo3/ebook.aspx> if you would prefer to have your text online). Also, check out the companion website to this book, which includes study plans, practice quizzes, geotours, animations, flash cards, and more: [http://www.wwnorton.com/college/geo/egeo3/!](http://www.wwnorton.com/college/geo/egeo3/)

Jones, C.E., and Jones, N. W., 2009, *Laboratory Manual for Physical Geology*, 7th Edition, Mc-Graw Hill, Boston, MA, 384 p. (You **MUST** have a **NEW** copy of the lab manual – **used, shared or borrowed lab manuals are not acceptable**)

Other equipment: An Einstruction Classroom Response Pad (a.k.a. ‘clicker’) is required for this course and may be purchased from the bookstore. Lecture participation with the ‘clickers’ will count towards your grade. In order to enroll your clicker, you’ll need online access, a clicker, our **class key (M59074A819)**, and an activation card/enrollment code. **I will hand out individual activation cards in lecture – they allow you to enroll for free, so don’t enroll with out them.**

COURSE GOALS

Geology is a lot like CSI – we make observations about the Earth, investigate questions using observation and sampling and draw conclusions about how the Earth works. My job in this class is to teach you how to think like an Earth scientist. Those of us who study the Earth learn through observation and deductive reasoning. You will become Earth detectives, learning how to observe and think about processes and forces acting on the Earth and to critically evaluate the evidence in support of those processes. Hopefully, you will learn the ways in which we, as humans, can change the face of the Earth and how we can make decisions that may prevent detrimental changes from taking place. You will also learn ways in which forces bigger than all of us and out of our control shape the Earth as we know it and how they shaped the Earth billions of years ago. Geology is scientifically unique because it draws on our knowledge of the physical, chemical, mathematical and biological world to help us to say something about the world we live on. So, no matter what your background, you have something to contribute to the class. This is part of the reason many of the people who study geology find it so fascinating.

GRADING

Your grade will be based on four exams, the laboratory component and participation in class.

Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Exam 4	15%
Laboratory	30%
Lecture Attendance (Homework, Quizzes, Class participation).....	10%
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Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

Your grade will be calculated as a percentage with the following scale:

90-100%	A
80-90%	B
70-80%	C
60-70%	D
<60%	F

(If you do not pass the laboratory portion of the class, that is, if your lab grade is <60%, your course grade will be F).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

EXAMS will include all chapters listed in the syllabus up to the date of the review session (see below). The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions about any of the topics we have covered in lecture or lab – be prepared for questions from any chapter up to that point. **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** (so mark your calendars NOW!). Here is the lecture exam schedule and the tentative chapters it will cover:

	Exam date	TENTATIVE Chapters to be covered
EXAM 1	Monday, February 22, 2010	Prelude, Ch. 1, 2, and 3; Interlude A
EXAM 2	Wednesday, March 17, 2010	Ch. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8; Interludes B, C, and D
EXAM 3	Monday, April 19, 2010	Ch. 9, 10, 13, and 14; Interludes E and F
EXAM 4	Friday, May 14, 2010	Ch. 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19

The LABORATORY component of this course is extremely important (and as a result makes up nearly a third of your grade in this course. Lab is where you learn practical skills and apply concepts you have learned in class. Therefore, attendance in lab is **mandatory**. **YOU MUST RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE (>60%) IN LAB TO PASS THIS COURSE!** (See lab syllabus for more information).

LECTURE ATTENDANCE will be based on some very simple homework assignments, in-class assignments and online-quizzes. Lecture (and lab) attendance is required if you wish to do well in the course. Lectures will include in-class exercises designed to get you to critically think about geology topics. These exercises will count towards your grade and will require a Classroom Response Pad (see above). No make-ups allowed.

Late work will **NOT** be accepted in lecture or in lab without an excuse sanctioned by the Dean of Students. If circumstances arise and you need to be absent from an important class, please let me know. I am more likely to be amenable to your absence if you give me some advance notice. This means e-mailing or calling me (or your lab instructor) with the details of your absence **BEFORE** lab or class. Do **NOT** wait until after the lab or assignment is due as I will not excuse you. You are responsible for getting notes, etc., from your classmates if you do miss lecture (excused or not).

The lecture section is for the benefit of all who are in attendance. Sometimes I will lecture and sometimes you will work on an activity. No matter what is happening, please, be aware and respectful of ALL participants in the class – students, tutors, and instructors! Rude, disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and will result in a lowered course grade and possible removal from the course. *TEXTING, EMAILING, CELL PHONE USE AND EAR BUDS ARE PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES DURING LECTURE AND LAB.* This rule is in effect because not only does texting, etc. show disrespect for the instructor but for those people around you who are trying to engage and learn something from the class. If you notice someone engaging in disruptive behavior, please do not hesitate to talk to the instructor or to point him or her out during class. If you talk to the instructor, please know that your identity will be kept in confidence

LABORATORY

Lab sections DO NOT MEET DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1. The syllabus for the laboratory portion of this course is posted on D2L. You must have ***A BRAND NEW LABORATORY MANUAL*** when you arrive in lab during the week of February 8. Used lab manuals are not acceptable. All labs meet in Harrington 113. The schedule of labs with instructors is as follows:

Weekday	Time	Instructor
M	3:00-5:10	Mary Jo Pankratz (pankratz@uwosh.edu)
T	8:00-10:10	Mary Jo Pankratz
T	12:40-2:50	Brent Zerkel (brentzerkel@gmail.com)
T	3:00-5:10	Mary Jo Pankratz
W	8:00-10:10	Jennifer Wenner (wenner@uwosh.edu)
W	3:00-5:10	Jennifer Wenner
F	8:00-10:10	Jennifer Wenner

REVIEW SESSIONS

A one-hour review session will be scheduled before each exam. You are expected to arrive at the review session ***prepared to ask questions*** about the material covered in that section of the class. As of January 26, 2010, the room has not been scheduled – please check on D2L to confirm times and to find the room numbers.

Exam 1 review: Wednesday, February 17, at 6 PM

Exam 2 review: Monday, March 15 at 6 PM

Exam 3 review: Thursday, April 15 at 5:30 PM

Exam 4 review: Wednesday, May 12, IN CLASS (11:30-12:30) in Halsey 106

FIELD TRIP

An optional field trip will take place on Saturday or Sunday during the month of April. This will be discussed in further detail during a future lab session.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Please contact Disability Services (424-3100 (voice) or 424-1319 (TTY)) or visit their web site at <http://www.uwosh.edu/dean/disabilities.htm> for the University's accommodation request form and documentation requirements. Information related to an individual's accommodation request will be kept confidential.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Wisconsin Administrative Code states: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others academic endeavors." (§ UWS 14.01) Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are serious offenses with severe penalties. See the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Student Discipline Code (<http://www.uwosh.edu/dean/studentdisciplinecode.html>) for definitions of academic misconduct and details about procedures, sanctions, and other relevant information. Specific questions about the provisions in the Student Discipline Code should be directed to the Dean of Students Office. If you do not understand this statement or anything contained in the Student Discipline Code, please see me as soon as possible.

LECTURE SCHEDULE (*tentative*)

Wk	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	1-Feb	Introduction: What is Geology? and the use of the Scientific Method	Prelude
	3-Feb	The birth of the Earth and Earth Structure	1
	5-Feb	The Scientific Evidence for Plate Tectonics	2.1-2.5
2	8-Feb	Plate Tectonics	2.6-2.10
	10-Feb	Plate Tectonics	2.11-2.14
	12-Feb	Minerals	3.1-3.3
3	15-Feb	Minerals	3.4-3.6
	17-Feb	Rock groups and general characteristics	<i>Int. A</i>
	19-Feb	Magma and igneous rocks	4.1-4.5
4	22-Feb	EXAM 1	
	24-Feb	Igneous rocks and plate tectonics	4.6-4.8
	26-Feb	Up from the inferno: Volcanoes	5
5	1-Mar	Up from the inferno: Volcanoes	5
	3-Mar	Weathering: the formation of sediments	Int. B
	5-Mar	Sedimentary rocks and their environments	6
6	8-Mar	Metamorphic rocks and environments	7
	10-Mar	Rocks and Plate Tectonics	7, Int. C
	12-Mar	A dynamic planet: Faults and Earthquakes	8
7	15-Mar	A dynamic planet: Seismology and Earthquakes	8, Int. D
	17-Mar	EXAM 2	
	19-Mar	Rock Deformation – folds and faults	9.1-9.6
8	22-Mar	NO CLASS OR LAB ALL WEEK (SPRING BREAK)	
9	29-Mar	Mountain Building	9.7-9.10
	31-Mar	Fossils, Evolution and relative time	<i>Int E</i> , 10.1-10.3
	2-Apr	Absolute time and the age of the Earth	10.4-10.9
10	5-Apr	The Hydrologic Cycle and Surface Water	<i>Int. F</i>
	7-Apr	Landslides and other mass movements and the human element	13
	9-Apr	Running water	14.1-14.5
11	12-Apr	Streams and their work	14.5-14.9
	14-Apr	Video: Flood! (NOVA – 1993)	--
	16-Apr	Groundwater	16.1-16.4
12	19-Apr	EXAM 3	
	21-Apr	Groundwater	16.5-16.7
	23-Apr	Glaciers and Ice Ages	18.1-18.4
13	26-Apr	Glaciers and Ice Ages	18.5-18.8
	28-Apr	Deserts and the atmosphere	17.1-17.3
	30-Apr	Deserts	17.4-17.6
14	3-May	Coastlines	15.1-15.5
	5-May	Coastlines	15.6-15.8
	7-May	Global change	19
15	10-May	Global change	19
	12-May	Review	
	14-May	EXAM 4	