

Course Syllabus, GEOL 103, Honors Sections 501-502, Fall 2011
ENVIRONMENT OF THE EARTH

Instructor: Scott White, Ph.D.
Office: Earth & Water Sciences Building (EWSC) 314
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 1:30-2:30pm or anytime by appointment
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Lab Instructor: Tim McClinton, M.S.
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Office Hours: By Appointment
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Lectures: T,Th 11am-12:15pm room: PSC 205 (next to Bouknight Auditorium)
Labs: Th or Fri 12:30-3:15 room: EWSC 104

Grading

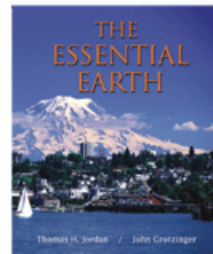
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| Midterm | 20% |
| <i>GeologyPortal</i> assignments and In-class exercises | 25% |
| Lab and Final Lab Project | 35% |
| Final Exam | 20% |

100-90% = A, 89.9-85% = B+, 84.9-79% = B, 78.9-75% = C+, 74.9-69% = C, 68.9-51% = D

NOTE: max possible points the midterms and final exams are the highest score earned by a student taking that exam.

Required Materials

Access to on-line learning environment, *Geology Portal*. and Jordan & Grotzinger, *The Essential Earth*, W. H. Freeman & Co.



Labs: This is a lab science credit course, and attendance at labs is *mandatory*. You must attend the lab for which you registered. Failure to complete more than 2 lab exercises during the semester for any reason (including excused absences) will result in an F grade for the entire course. Some labs may include field trips or be conducted outdoors. Please see your Lab Syllabus for additional information.

Exams: There will be one mid-term exam and a cumulative final exam. Exams will be given in multiple-choice or short-answer format.

Midterm: Thurs., October 6 at 11:00am

Final Exam: Fri, December 9 at 5:30pm

Make-up Policy: There is a “no excused absences” policy. Students who are absent from any exam or lab will be given 0 points for that activity if they have not offered a written excuse acceptable to the instructor, and made special arrangements to make up the work. No absences will be excused without proper documentation. It is the student’s

responsibility to provide the proper documentation in a timely manner as defined for approved and medical absences below.

with prior written confirmation only for students engaged in approved university sponsored activities (excuses not accepted after the event):

- participation in an authorized University activity (such as musical performances, academic competitions, or varsity athletic events in which the student plays a formal role in a University sanctioned event)
- required participation in military duties or jury duty

with subsequent written confirmation only with a signed and dated note by a physician on a prescription pad for an illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.

The instructor reserves the right to decide whether any excuse is acceptable, including those listed above, and whether any work can be made up.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES: This course introduces the science of the Earth, with emphasis on natural resources and hazards, geologic processes, earth structure and history through time, and global climate change. Students will develop an appreciation for the importance of natural resources to human societies. Upon completion of this course, students should:

1. Describe the components and relationships of the Rock Cycle.
2. Describe the components of the Hydrologic Cycle and the flow of water.
3. Enumerate the principles of the Scientific Method.
4. Predict the processes responsible for the creation of common landforms.
5. Identify ways that humans have an impact on the Earth, and the range of natural variability in global climate change

Important Dates

Aug. 24 Last day to drop/add without a grade of “W” being recorded

Sept. 5 Labor Day holiday - no classes

Oct. 13 Last day to drop a course or withdraw without a grade of “WF” being recorded

Oct. 20-21 Fall break-no classes

Nov. 23-27 Thanksgiving recess-no classes

Dec. 2 Last day of classes

Dec. 9 (Fri.) 5:30PM Final Examination

CHEATING: All students are required to bring their student ID's to each exam and be able to present it when they hand in their exams if asked. Students will adhere to the official USC "Code of Student Academic Responsibility".

CELL PHONES: Remember that all cell phones, pagers, mp3 players, and other personal electronics must be turned off and put away during class. Anyone

using or exposing a cell phone during an exam will automatically fail that examination.