

Field Camp GEOL 4376  
Syllabus of Course Information

Required Text: NONE

**GLASS GOALS**

This course is your “capstone” class in Geology. It is the class where you will bring together everything you have learned in your time as a major, and apply it to solving problems in the field.

Computer and Internet use outside of class are required for this class. You need to have your free UTEP email account activated for this course and you need to check it regularly. If you don't have one, go to <http://getmail.utep.edu> now to activate yours. We will be experimenting with internet activities this semester so the syllabus will certainly change as the class evolves.

Process:

Before each class:

- \* Read the assigned materials
- \* Identify concepts that are central to understanding the topics to be discussed
- \* Prepare a list of questions from the reading for which you need further clarification

During each class:

- \* Try to solve the weekly problem and turn it in.
- \* Take careful notes. Be sure you can make concept maps and drawings as part of your notes.
- \* Be an active participant!!
- \* Classroom cooperative exercises. We will have short cooperative exercises in class. Some of these will be graded and will replace pop quizzes.
- \* Socratic method. I often ask questions in lecture. I am trying to teach you how to approach science. I am trying to get you to ask questions. I am not looking for the “right” answer.

Geologic Mapping: The primary tool used to demonstrate geologic science and to interpret the earth is geologic mapping. Students will work in small groups, observing, describing, and creating maps that will solve problems related to the geology of each project area geology.

The skills that will be practiced are those that were developed in Geoscience processes, Structural geology and sedimentology. These include

- 1) locating yourself and geologic features on a map.
- 2) description rocks and recognizing formation and geologic contacts
- 3) interpreting the three-dimensional geologic structures, and testing hypotheses in the field
- 4)

The result of the field projects will be

- 1) Interpretation of the mapping results and preparation of a professional quality geologic map, cross section, and report

**Reports:** The report is based on observations and rock descriptions, the geologic map, and interpretations of the geology made through constructing geologic cross sections. The 3-5 pages of writing that accompany your figure are important because it helps you learn how to write a technical report and helps you focus on understanding the geology and history of the area. The reports will be graded for both content and clarity of writing.

Grading:

The grade for each project will be earned based on the following breakdown:

Geologic Maps 40%

Field Notes and raw map from your handheld 15%

Geologic Cross Sections 20%

Geologic Reports 25%

Important

**Elevations:** We will be working in a variety of climates and terrains, from very hot to Colorado at 10,000 ft. .

Do : wear a hat, drink lots of water every day use sunscreen and sun protective clothing. When appropriate wear Jackets and rain jackets.

Grading :

There will be 2 or 3 extensive projects due during the first part of the class. During the long field trip in the third week there will be daily quizzes. The quizzes will add up to 1/3 of the course grade. The reports you present on the projects will determine the rest of the grade.

### COURSE POLICIES

**POLICY ON CLASS PARTICIPATION:** You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned topic. You should have a good understanding of the reading and have several questions ready to discuss.

**POLICY ON MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS:** NO make-up exams will be given for reasons other than illness (doctor's note required), absence with the instructor's prior approval, or when a student is on official University business (documentation required). Make-up exams will be scheduled on Fridays at 5pm. The same policy will be followed for missed laboratory work.

**POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. All university guidelines will be strictly followed. Please read these guidelines carefully. If you have any questions regarding the university policy please contact the Dean of Students.

Schedule