

Fundamentals of Earth Science GEOL 5402 (Hybrid Internet Offering)

Tentative Syllabus—*Please note that most of the class meetings will take place on the internet. Only one lecture and the lab will meet in person each week.*

Instructor: Laura Serpa

Office Hours: TBA

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Required Text:

There is a textbook for the class and I will post the information on Blackboard when I have it available.

Field Trips (Required)

There will be 3 Saturday field trips that will take the entire day (8 am to 5 pm). We will work out a schedule for these trips when the class meets face to face.

This is a hybrid online class which means that you will have readings and assignments on Blackboard. The field trips will replace some face to face labs.

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.

What I expect you to get out of this class.

- 1) Learning to observe and ask questions. This class will teach you to look at the world around you and ask questions about why things look like they do.
- 2) Understanding the forces and history that shape our landscape.
- 3) Concepts and vocabulary. A big part of any introductory science is vocabulary. We need to have the same meanings for the words we use so that we can communicate. There are also several important concepts that are of concern to all of us as citizens and scientists.
- 4) Thinking like a scientist. You should begin to think like a scientist. Scientists observe, question, and analyze.
- 5) Learning about El Paso. El Paso is an incredible place to learn about Geology. I will include examples wherever possible.
- 6) Enjoyment. This should be a class where you learn a lot and also have a good time. Participation is a key to enjoyment.
- 7) The tools necessary to make intelligent decisions about your future with respect to the planet on which you live.

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
- * Check the folder in Blackboard for materials you need to read, watch, or otherwise do something with and print the weekly question and the quiz you must answer and turn in at the end of the class period for each lecture. **PAY ATTENTION TO THE DUE DATES FOR ASSIGNMENTS AND QUIZZES—THEY ARE NOT FLEXIBLE.**

During each class:

- * Turn off the sound on your cell phone when you enter the classroom and leave it off.
- * Take notes and participate in discussions.

During Field Trips

Pay particular attention to field safety. We will go over that in class before we have our first field trip. Do not arrive late or plan to leave early. The field trips are the primary purpose of the class and it is where you will practice what you have learned in the class.

Grading :

Online quizzes.....	20%
Classroom activities	20%
Field trip activities (3)	20% each 60%
Total	100%

89.5 – 100 = A, 79.5 - 89.4 = B, 69.5 – 79.4 = C, 59.5 – 69.4 = D, 0 - 59.4 = F

COURSE POLICIES

POLICY ON CLASS PARTICIPATION: You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned topics. You should be up to date with the materials assigned on the internet, have a good understanding of the reading, and come to class with pertinent questions you would like 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).

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.