University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)

Department of Earth, Environmental and Resource Sciences
Fall – 2023

Physical Geology Lab - GEOL 1103 23 -CRN: 16562
Instructor: Dr. Musa Hussein
Office: Geology Building 306B
Office hour: Virtually via MS Team. Only by an appointment.
Phone: (915) 747-5424 (Leave a messages)
Email: mjhussein@utep.edu (respond time 24-48 hours) or via class messages on Blackboard (respond time 24-48 hours)

Course Description
Physical geology lab will study the earth as a planet, looking at minerals, rocks, earth processes, hydrology cycle and of course plate tectonics. The course concluded by focusing on the role of ground water and wind in shaping the earth’s surface.

Learning Outcome
Upon successful completion of this course student will be able to:
- Become familiar with topo maps and their uses.
- Explain and scientifically describe plate tectonic.
- Identify different minerals
- Describe the processes that forms igneous rocks and volcanism
- Describe the processes that form metamorphic rocks
- Describe the processes that forms sedimentary rocks
- Describe the Hydrologic cycle
- Identify geological structures formed by streams and ground water
- Describe earth interior structure
- Describe atmospheric structure and atmospheric processes.

Text: No required text, lab material will be posted on Blackboard by the instructor.
**Attendance:**
This is a 100% online class. The class is asynchronous which means you can do the assignments, exams, and quizzes, at your most convenient time as long as you submit within the time limit, I give you.
Attendance on the course is determined by completing the class assignments, quizzes and exams of the course. Your participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also to creating a community of learners.

**Grading:**

1. **Lab assignments (10 points each): 85% of your overall grade.**
   Every week you will complete two lab assignments. I except that you will provide a full detailed answer for each question, short brief answers are not preferred and will not get the full grade. Besides the correct answer I will be looking for the way you express your answers. Late assignments will lose some points, assignment that is one week late will not be grade and will earn 0 points.

2. **Lab final exam: 15% of your overall grade.**
The final exam serves to reinforce material. The exam is comprehensive and will cover the lab assignment we did. The exam will be multiple choice and T, F questions.

Your final lecture grade is based on the total of exams and quizzes.
- 90-100=A
- 80-89.9=B
- 70-79.9=C
- 60-69.9=D
- less than 60 =F

**Incomplete Grade Policy**
Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

**Students with Disabilities**
If you think you may have a disability or if you are experiencing learning difficulties, please The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) you contact them Monday through Friday 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Phone:(915) 747-5148 Union Building East Room 106 cass@utep.edu. They will provide any necessary accommodations. You should also meet with me in order to facilitate your needs. You are expected to provide documentation of your disability in order to make special arrangements for this class.

**Academic Misconduct**
Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class (please refer to the student conduct code handbook for details regarding university policy and definitions). Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism on term papers, unauthorized notes brought into an exam; copying answers from another student or letting another student copy
your answers. The penalty for the first offense will be a grade of zero points on the exam or assignment. Penalty for the second offense will be an F for the course.

Your continued enrollment in this course implies that you have read and understand this syllabus, and that you agree to abide by the conditions herein.

**Helpful Hints:**
- Review material regularly - multiple short study sessions over a period of weeks are more effective than a single "cram" the night before an exam.
- Form a study group online. Each member should study material on their own before meeting with the group for discussion and comparison.
- Ask questions when you have any
- Combine any available class notes, textbook, web materials, and old exams when studying – each provides a different perspective.
- Pay attention to the news and current events to see how they related to Geology.
- Do the homework assignments. They will help your grade.
- Read your text in SMALL doses; don't plan on one massive reading session the night before the exam.
- Be sure to look at the pictures and diagrams in the text.

**Technology Requirements**
Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.
You will need to have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.
If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP’s Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about Microsoft Office 365 and follow the instructions.
**IMPORTANT:** If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!
**COURSE OUTLINE:** this schedule is subject to change.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>1- Coordinates &amp; Physical Geography</td>
<td>08/31/2023</td>
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<td>2- Plate Tectonics</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>3- Minerals</td>
<td>09/07/2023</td>
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<td>4- Rock cycle and Ign. Rocks</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>5- Volcanic Hazards</td>
<td>09/14/2023</td>
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<td>6- Sedimentary rocks</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>7- Metamorphic rocks</td>
<td>09/21/2023</td>
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<td>8- Geologic Structure</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>9- Geologic time</td>
<td>09/28/2023</td>
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<td>10- Earthquakes</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>11- Streams</td>
<td>10/05/2023</td>
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<td>12- Ground water</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>13- Desert</td>
<td>10/12/2023</td>
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**Final Exam Friday 10/13/2023**

**Important Dates:**
- Classes begin                     August 28
- Census day                        September 05
- Course drop with "W"              October 06
- Final Exam                        October 16