Natural Hazards - GEOL 1231 - CRN: 16575
Instructor: Dr. Musa Hussein
Office: Geology Building 306B
Office hour: Virtually via MS Team. Only by an appointment.
Phone: (915) 747-5424
Email: mjhussein@utep.edu (respond time 24-48 hours) or via class messages on Blackboard (respond time 24-48 hours)

Course Description
In this course you will expand your knowledge of the dynamic earth processes that impacts our lives. The course is divided into two parts; the first part will discuss natural disasters related to plate tectonics (earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides). The second will be dedicated to processes and hazards related to weather (flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes)

Learning Outcome:
At the end of the course students should be able to:
- The relation between plate tectonics and natural hazards
- Earthquakes and their causes, size, characterization, prediction and mitigation
- Tectonic environment of volcanoes, types of volcanoes, volcanic eruption and products, hazards and mitigation.
- Causes of landslides, types of downslope movement.
- Types of ground motion, land subsidence and swelling soils.
- Climate change and weather.
- Streams and flood processes.
- Hurricanes, thunderstorms, and tornadoes.
- Wildfire and impact of asteroids.
- Access and evaluate scientific information, including interpreting tables, graphs and equations.
Text:
- OR

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 if 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.

1. Three exams (30 points each) (60% of your overall grade):
NO MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE GIVEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. The questions will relate to the textbook. Exams will be available for a certain time before I close the back reopen is not an option, please don't miss the exam time.

2. Reading Assignments: (14 Assignments 10 point each) (30% of your overall grade)
The class will focus on Hand-On-Activities to enhance your understanding of the hazards and intimate student engagement through working with other colleagues to share knowledge and information. Late assignments for no more than one week will be accepted for partial credit if you have an acceptable excuse.

3. Quizzes: (9 quizzes 10 points each) (10% of your overall grade)
Nine quizzes each is 5 multiple choice questions.

Your final lecture grade is based on the total of exams, activities, assignments, 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 thru 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.
When someone in an audience is talking, or even whispering, it can be very distracting to those nearby. Since this type of behavior is quite rude and impedes the progress of other students, it will not be tolerated and anyone doing so will be asked to leave the classroom.

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.
- Write out definitions and answers to essay questions; use a computer or something else- don't just passively read your notes!
- Ask questions when you have any
- Combine 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 a 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!
**OURSE OUTLINE: this schedule is subject to change.**

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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Living with Earth’s Natural Hazards and Dynamic Earth (Plate Tectonics)</td>
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<td>-(Target Earth) Asteroids and comets</td>
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<td>Assignment 14</td>
<td>-Conclusion</td>
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**Important Academic Calendar Dates:**
- Classes begin: Oct. 23
- Census day: Oct. 30
- Course drop with "W": Nov. 30
- Final Exam: Dec. 11