

# PHYSICAL GEOLOGY COURSE SYLLABUS

Professor: Phil Farquharson, "Geology Guy"

E-mail address: philfarq@gmail.com

Message phone: (none – please use E-mail)

Office Hours: *Sunday evenings 7:00 to 9:00 PM, Zoom.us or E-mail (other sessions by request...)*

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisites (Advisory): ENGL 048 and ENGL 049, each with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent, or Assessment Skill Levels R5/W5.

Web Site: <http://geology100online.geology-guy.com/> (instructor's personal, "unofficial" website)

Blackboard: <https://sdccd.blackboard.com/> (where you will submit all of your work)

MasteringGeology Study Area: All sorts of Visualizations, Practice Quizzes, even Flash Cards & Glossary! (through Bb)

## **Textbook (Recommended) and MasteringGeology (Required)**

- **Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology**, Tarbuck, Lutgens & Tasa, Twelfth Edition, Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-429916-7 - includes Modified **MasteringGeology** (purchased at the **Miramar** Bookstore or through Blackboard **only**)
- *IF* you absolutely **MUST** have a **PAPER** edition of the text, you should buy the Modified MasteringGeology through Blackboard, then buy, rent or borrow the 12th or 11th edition of **Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology** from the usual online sources. The ISBN's for those books: 12th edition 978-0134074252; 11th edition 978-0321814067.

## **Important information regarding MyLab and MasteringGeology**

**DO NOT** purchase an access code for **MasteringGeology** anywhere other than the **Miramar** Bookstore or through our Blackboard site! Please follow the instructions on the "unofficial" website, also in Blackboard.

## **Optional Regional Geology Resource Books (because you might want to learn about the neighborhood!)**

*The Rise and Fall of San Diego: 150 Million Years of History Recorded in Sedimentary Rocks*, Patrick L. Abbott, 1999, Sunbelt Publications. ISBN: 0-932653-31-6

*Roadside Geology Along Sunrise Highway*, Michael J. Walawender, 2011, San Diego Association of Geologists. ISBN-13: 978-0-916251-19-2

## **Teaching Philosophy**

As odd as this may sound, I don't consider myself a **teacher**. I can't teach you anything. My goal is to encourage you to **learn**. Picture me in wearing a pleated skirt, a sweater with a letter on the front (G, as in Geology!) and pom-poms in hands, cheering you on: "Go! Fight! Learn tonight!" I don't **give** grades. I'm merely the scorekeeper. You are responsible for your success. I have been considering myself a **mentor** since a supervisor who hired me some time ago pointed out that all of the references that he checked said that mentoring was part of my persona. Hence, I have adopted that label for myself: **Earth Sciences Mentor**. Note that geology is a highly interdisciplinary field of study. Lesson 1 - it's all one thing!

## **Instructor Availability**

I am a friendly, helpful, approachable person. I will be available via E-mail to answer questions, E-mail is my preferred method of communications, I may experiment with Skype-like means of instant communications, stay tuned!

## **Course Description**

*"Physical Geology is the science of the Earth, the materials of which it is composed, and the processes that are acting upon it. Topics include plate tectonics and earth's internal structure, the formation and classification of minerals and rocks, geologic structures, and geologic processes of the earth's surface and subsurface. This course is intended for students with a general interest in the geological sciences as well as those majoring in geology, earth science, or geological engineering. Associate Degree Credit & transfer to CSU. CSU General Education. IGETC. UC Transfer Course List."*

## ***Student Learning Outcomes ("SLO's")***

At the end of this course, the successful student will be able to:

- ***Differentiate among the 3 major types of plate boundaries and recognize their characteristic geologic features.***
- Identify common rock-forming minerals by their diagnostic properties.
- Classify rock strata, faults and intrusions by age, using relative dating techniques.

## ***General Requirements***

- Online classes in general require a great deal of self-discipline. You are responsible for your own success.
- Since this is a shorter-term, compressed class, it will be necessary to you to "hit the ground running" at the start of the class.

## ***Academic Misconduct: (i.e., PLAGIARISM!)***

Section 41301 of Title V of the California Code of Regulations defines academic misconduct as "cheating or plagiarism in connection with an academic program at a campus." Examples of cheating include using notes or copying others' work during an exam, using old exams and study guides to prepare for an exam, and falsifying data or records for an exercise. Examples of plagiarism include copying other students' answers or, when working in collaborative groups, not stating answers in your own words, based on your own understanding. For more information about plagiarism, please see the following: [http://www.sdccdonline.net/students/resources/College\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.sdccdonline.net/students/resources/College_Policies.pdf).

## ***MasteringGeology Assignments - tutorials and quizzes online***

Most evaluations will be completed in MasteringGeology, accessed through Blackboard. There will also be a quiz in Blackboard based on this syllabus, as well as a test on the first student learning outcome (SLO) in this syllabus.

## ***About MasteringGeology***

For each subject (chapter) we cover, there will be a homework assignment for you to complete, based on your reading and the ancillary materials (short videos, narrated PowerPoints and animations, virtual field trips via light airplanes and drones, etc.) to be found the assignments themselves. The total points for each assignment are shown in the right-hand column of the schedule below.

## ***Final Writing Assignment***

There will be one 100-point writing assignment, submitted into Blackboard by the end of the term. This will require a synthesis of all of the material you learned in the semester and related to the number one problem on our Earth: climate change on a scale unprecedented in the last fifty million years.

## ***Participating in Discussion Forums:***

In addition to the Mastering assignments, there will be Interaction regarding pertinent Earth science topics, which will take place in the discussion forums. The topics may change depending on the whims of "Mother Nature" - there may well be natural disasters during our course which require our immediate attention. These might include earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, meteor impacts, floods, landslides...

## ***Grading Response Times:***

While I can't say that I'm available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (24/7), I should be able to have your assignments graded within 24 hours. There will be a "crunch" at the end of the course, where I will be momentarily overwhelmed and it might take me a few days to get everything graded, but stay tuned!

## ***"Netiquette" - It's so nice to be nice!***

The San Diego Community College District ("District") has firm guidelines on behavior while in the online learning environment, which can be found at <http://www.sdccdonline.net/students/resources/NetiquetteGuidelines.pdf> - you are responsible for knowing these simple rules for getting along with others.

## ***ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION (Policy 3105)***

The District is committed to the fundamental principles of nondiscrimination and accommodation in academic programs

and to all provisions of Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. District Policy 3105 provides for academic adjustments for students with disabilities.

### ***Unlawful Harassment or Discrimination Complaint Other than Title IX***

San Diego City, Mesa and Miramar Colleges are committed to providing an academic environment free of unlawful harassment and unlawful discrimination. Board Policy 3100 defines verbal, physical, visual or written, environmental and harassment and other forms of harassment on campus, and sets forth a procedure for the investigation and resolution of complaints of harassment by or against any staff, or faculty member, or student within the District.

### ***Important Stuff:***

- Students who remain enrolled in a class beyond the published withdrawal deadline, as stated in the class schedule, will receive an evaluative letter grade in this class.
- The Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits the release of any student educational information to another individual, including family members, without the student's written consent.

### ***Late Work Policy:***

**NO** points will be deducted for late work! Please try not to fall behind, but I realize that life is constantly throwing us curve balls. I want to make our class as stress-free an environment as possible - I want you to learn!

### ***Important Dates:***

- January 5: Last day to add. Last day to drop with no "W" recorded.
- January 10: Pass/no pass deadline.
- January 18: Last day to withdraw without an evaluative grade.
- January 28: End of 4-week Session.

### ***Possible Optional Field Trips***

- (none scheduled, but there could be an opportunity or two...)

### ***Grades***

Grades are calculated as follows: A = 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 68-79%, D = 55-67%, F = < 54%.

Course grades are calculated on:

Mastering Assignments	→	283 points
Discussion/writing assignments	→	200 points
Syllabus, SLO Quizzes in Bb	→	20 points

**Total: 503 points**

### ***Important Note about the Schedule:***

This schedule is tentative and may be changed or modified by the instructor at any time during the semester. Students will be notified in a timely basis if changes are made. The latest version will always be found in Blackboard and on the "unofficial" web site at <http://geology100online.geology-guy.com>.

### ***SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS***

Miramamar College is committed to sustainability on campus and in our classrooms, as reflected in the SDCCD Sustainability Proclamation. To minimize the use of paper resources, please consider when a document may be shared digitally rather than printed. When a document must be printed, decrease the default setting on your margins to at least 0.8" and print on both sides of the paper. Please utilize the campus and classroom recycle bins for all recyclable materials: plastic bottles and containers (#1-7), cans, paper and cardboard. You are encouraged to bring reusable drink containers to school rather than disposable plastic bottles. Thank you for considering your role in keeping the campus environment clean, and conserving resources in your academic life.

## Geology 100 Schedule

Month	Date	Chapt.	Subject	Milestones
January	3		<b>Week 1</b>	
			Welcome!	Syllabus Quiz ( <i>in Bb</i> ) (10 points)
		1	Introduction to Geology	Chapter 1 Homework (12 points)
		2	Plate Tectonics	Chapter 2 Homework (19 points)
		3	Matter and Minerals	Chapter 3 Homework (14 points)
January	9		<b>Week 2</b>	
		4	Magma, Igneous Rocks & Intrusive Activity	Chapter 4 Homework (21 points)
		5	Volcanoes & Volcanic Hazards	Chapter 5 Homework (17 points)
				<b><u>Plate Tectonics and Volcanoes</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Bb</i> ) (50 points, Blackboard)
January	16		<b>Week 3</b>	
		6,7	Weathering, Sedimentary Rocks	Chapters 6 & 7 Homework (21 points)
		8	Metamorphic Rocks	Chapter 8 Homework (14 points)
		9	Geologic Time	Chapter 9 Homework (18 points)
		10	Crustal Deformation	Chapter 10 Homework (21 points)
		11	Earthquakes	Chapter 11 Homework (19 points)
				<b><u>Rock Cycle and Earthquakes</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Bb</i> ) (50 points, Blackboard)
January	23		<b>Week 4</b>	
		15	Mass Wasting	Chapter 15 Homework (13 points)
		16, 17	Running Water, Groundwater	Chapters 16 & 17 Homework (32 points)
		18	Glaciers	Chapter 18 Homework (13 points)
		19	Deserts	Chapter 19 Homework (16 points)
		20	Shorelines	Chapter 20 Homework (14 points)
		21	Global Climate Change	Chapter 21 Homework (19 points)
				<b><u>Water and Climate Change</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Bb</i> ) (100 points)
January	28		11:59 PM, in Blackboard / Mastering	<b><u>All Work Due</u></b>

FRANK & ERNEST BOB THAVES

