


# Physical Geology SYLLABUS

Professor: Phil Farquharson, "Geology Guy"

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

"Office" Hours: Sunday evenings, 7-9 PM, (or by request) using Zoom  (video conferencing) or E-mail

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

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

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

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

- **Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology**, Tarbuck, Lutgens & Tasa, Thirteenth Edition, Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-523849-3 - includes Modified **MasteringGeology** (purchased at the **Miramar** Bookstore **only**)
- **IF** you absolutely **MUST** have a **PAPER** edition of the text (I understand, believe me!), you should buy the Modified MasteringGeology (includes the e-text), then buy, rent or borrow the 13th, 12th or 11th edition of **Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology** from the usual online sources. There are also a couple of **pretty-good free (!!!)** online texts that you might consider, links to which may be found on my web site ( <https://geology100online.geology-guy.com/> ).

## Important information regarding MyLab and MasteringGeology

**DO NOT** purchase an access code for **MasteringGeology** anywhere other than the **Miramar** Bookstore! See *instructions* on the "unofficial" website (<https://geology100online.geology-guy.com/text-specs.html>), also in Canvas.

## 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 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!

## MasteringGeology Homework - tutorials and quizzes online

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

## 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.

## Writing Assignments / Participating in Discussion Forums:

In addition to the Mastering "homework" assignments, there will be writing assignments requiring synthesis of the previous material. They may be replaced by discussion topics depending on the whims of "Mother Nature" - natural disasters during our course which require our immediate attention.

## 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, as long as I have Internet access.

## Important Stuff:

- **If you don't log into Canvas for an extended period of time (say, more than a week), I may become concerned about your well-being. If you don't respond to my attempts at contact, I MAY drop you from the course.**
- 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.
- 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 (hopefully, FUN!!!) as possible - I want you to learn!

## Important Dates:

- 10/23/2024 - Primary Add/Drop/Refund Deadline
- 10/24/2024 - Instructor Census Drop Deadline - by NOON (Primary Session)
- 11/15/2024 - Withdrawal and Pass/No Pass Grade Option Deadlines for the Secondary 8-Wk Session
- 11/28/2024 - 11/29/2024 - THANKSGIVING (Campus Closed)
- 12/23/2024 - 01/01/2025 - Winter Break (Campus Closed)

## Grades (points are tentative)

Grade breakdown: A = 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 68-79%, D = 55-67%, F = < 54%. Course grades are calculated on:

Mastering Assignments	→	687 points ( <i>may change as the semester develops</i> )
Discussion/writing assignments	→	400 points ( <i>probably more, depends on world geological events</i> )
Syllabus Acknowledgement	→	10 points
SLO Quiz	→	10 points
<b>Total: 1107 points</b>		

## 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.



## Geology 100 Schedule

Month	Date	Chapt.	Subject	Milestones ( <i>release dates, mostly</i> )
October	14		<b>Week 1</b>	
			Welcome!	Syllabus Acknowledgement ( <i>in Canvas</i> ) (10 points, <b>mandatory</b> )
		1 2	Introduction to Geology Plate Tectonics	Chapter 1 Homework (37 points) <i>Plus</i> Intro to Mastering (5 pts.)
October	21		<b>Week 2</b>	
			Plate Tectonics (continued)	Chapter 2 Homework (66.5 points)
October	28		<b>Week 3</b>	
		3	Matter and Minerals	Chapter 3 Homework (32 points)
		4	Magma, Igneous Rocks & Intrusive Activity	Chapter 4 Homework (53 points)
		5	Volcanoes & Volcanic Hazards	Chapter 5 Homework (57 points)
				<b><u>Plate Tectonics / Volcanoes</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Canvas</i> ) (100 points)
November	4		<b>Week 4</b>	
		6,7	Weathering, Sedimentary Rocks	Chapters 6 & 7 Homework (50 points)
		8	Metamorphic Rocks	Chapter 8 Homework (19 points)
November	11		<b>Week 5</b>	
		9	Geologic Time	Chapter 9 Homework (66 points)
		10	Crustal Deformation	Chapter 10 Homework (29 points)
		11	Earthquakes	Chapter 11 Homework (27.5 points)
		12-14	Earth Interior / Ocean Basins / Mtns.	Chapters 12, 13, 14 Homework (60 points)
				<b><u>Earthquakes</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Canvas</i> ) (100 points)
November	18		<b>Week 6</b>	
		15	Mass Wasting	Chapter 15 Homework (16 points)
		16, 17	Running Water, Groundwater	Chapters 16 & 17 Homework (40.5 points)
November	25		<b>Thanksgiving Week</b>	<b>(no work due)</b>
December	2		<b>Week 7</b>	
		18	Glaciers	Chapter 18 Homework (25 points)
		19	Deserts	Chapter 19 Homework (35 points)
		20	Shorelines	Chapter 20 Homework (33 points)
December	9		<b>Week 8</b>	
		21, 23	Global Climate Change / Energy	Chapters 21, 23 Homework (35.5 points) SLO Quiz (10 points)
				<b><u>Water and Climate Change</u></b> assignment ( <i>in Canvas</i> ) (200 points)
December	16		<b>11:59 PM, in Canvas / Mastering</b>	<b><u>All Work "Due" (officially)</u></b> - *** my grades will be due on the 20th... ****

### **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 Canvas and on the "unofficial" web site at <http://geology100online.geology-guy.com>.

## "Boilerplate" section - quasi-legal stuff that I'm required to insert:

### **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).

### **"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.

### **Course Description (official)**

"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."

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION (Policy 3105) and Miramar DSPS**

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. **DSPS** (Disability Support Programs Services) at Miramar College offers a wide range of services for students with verified disabilities. If you have a learning or physical disability which requires special accommodations for classroom participation and/or examinations, please let me (the instructor) know on the first day of class and notify the DSPS office on campus in room K-204, by email: [miradsps@sdccd.edu](mailto:miradsps@sdccd.edu) or by phone, (619) 388-7312.

### **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.

### **SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS (and in life!)**

Miramar 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.

## SAN DIEGO GEOLOGY

