

Geology 1403 - General Geology I (a.k.a. Physical Geology)
Fall 2014, Lecture, Section: TBD, Days and Times: TBD

Dr. Joseph Kruger, Geology Room 111, 880-8233, joseph.kruger@lamar.edu, Office Hours by appointment
Required Text: Earth, An Introduction To Physical Geology, by Tarbuck, Lutgens & Tasa, 10th edition

The goal of this course is to introduce the student to the various aspects of physical geology. Students will learn critical thinking skills through using the scientific method to solve various geologic problems. Students will learn empirical and quantitative skills through observing various geologic features and materials and identifying them using criteria taught in class, as well as through the use of mathematical formulas. Students will learn oral, visual, and written communication skills by submitting lab assignments that include both written reports and illustrations, as well as answering questions verbally in the lecture class. Students will learn teamwork skills by discussing lab exercises in small groups and answering questions both as individuals and with a team report.

Course Outline

<u>Tentative Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assigned Reading</u>
Jan. 18, 20	An Introduction to Geology	Chapter 1
23, 25	Plate Tectonics: A Scientific Revolution Unfolds	Chapter 2
27, 30	Matter and Minerals	Chapter 3
Feb. 1, 3	Igneous Rocks	Chapter 4
6, 8	Volcanoes and Other Igneous Activity	Chapter 5
Feb. 10	Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
13, 15	Sedimentary Rocks	Chapter 7
17, 20	Metamorphism and Metamorphic Rocks	Chapter 8
22, 24	Geologic Time	Chapter 9
27, 29	Crustal Deformation	Chapter 10
Mar. 2, 5, 7, 9	Videos	none
19, 21	Earthquakes	Chapter 11
Mar. 23	Exam 2: Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, and videos	
26, 28	Earth's Interior	Chapter 12
30, Apr. 2	Mass Wasting: The Work of Gravity	Chapter 15
4, 9	Running Water	Chapter 16
11, 13	Groundwater	Chapter 17
Apr. 16	Exam 3: Chapters 11, 12, 15, 16, 17	
18, 20	Shorelines	Chapter 20
23, 25	Global Climate Change	Chapter 21
27, 30	Earth's Evolution Through Geologic Time	Chapter 22
2, 4	Energy and Mineral Resources	Chapter 23
May. 7	Exam 4: Chapters 20, 21, 22, 23	
9	Assessment Quiz and Review for Final Exam	
May. 11, 8:00 –10:30	Final Exam (optional): Comprehensive	

Web Site (to download course notes, quizzes, study guides) is as follows

<http://ess.lamar.edu/people/faculty/krugerj/teaching/geology-i-physical-geology>

Study guides and self-graded quizzes that do not count toward your grade will be put on the web site before every exam.

Lecture Grade (worth 75% of your final grade). Exams: 25% each; 50 questions each exam; scantron. NO MAKEUPS unless prearranged with instructor. Valid prearranged excuses include surgical procedures, work duties, or class field trips/athletic events. Any excuse must be accompanied by a written letter or doctor's excuse on official letterhead from the organization requiring the absence.

Optional Comprehensive Final Exam; 50 questions; scantron: Will replace the lowest grade of the previous four exams.

Lecture Attendance: You are expected to attend class every day.

Lab: Worth 25% of your final grade. NOTE: You must take a 1403 Lab in conjunction with lecture. NOTE: You must pass lab with a 60% or better to pass this course.

Grading Scale: A = 90% to 100%, B = 80% to 89%, C = 70% to 79%, D = 60% to 69%, F = less than 60%

Note: Dr. Kruger will curve the exams a maximum of 10% to try to bring averages less than 75% up to 75%.

Top three recommended study techniques:

- (1) Attend lecture every day and use the course notes and study guides. These notes are only a template, so take additional notes in class.
- (2) Read the appropriate chapter in the text book before it is covered in lecture, but do not try to memorize everything in the book.
- (3) Pay close attention to the diagrams in the book and those covered in lecture. Diagrams are not in the course notes.
- (4) Review the days lecture notes after each class and all the chapter lecture notes at the conclusion of each chapter.
- (5) Work with a study partner or in a group if helpful and ask the instructor any questions about the material in and after class.

If you have a disability, or think you have a disability which may need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the office of Services For Students With Disabilities (SFSWD) as early as possible: 880-8026 (voice and tty), 880-8347 (voice), 880-2225 (fax).

Academic Honesty Policy: It is expected that students will adhere to the Academic Honesty Policy as detailed in the Student Handbook or face failure and subsequent disciplinary action.