

Geology 1403: Physical Geology

Fall 2017

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00pm – 3:00pm, Tue 2:00pm – 3:00pm, by appointment, or anytime I'm in my office.

Course Information

Location: LDB 207

Time: TTh 12:30 - 1:50pm

Required Texts:

1. Essentials of Geology. 3rd, 4th or 5th Ed., Stephen Marshak, **2009, 2013, or 2016**. W.W. Norton.
2. Lab manual: Physical Geology Laboratory Manual. Cooper, B., Hill, J., and Netoff, D.

Course Description

This class is an introduction to Physical Geology. The class will examine the various processes (internal and external) that have been active in the past and at present on Earth. These processes or theories are based on experimental data and geologic data gathered from the field.

Grading

There are 550 total points available for the lecture portion. Your grade will be based on your performance on **three lecture exams, ~13 quizzes of which the top 10 will count toward your grade (administered through Blackboard), and a comprehensive final exam**. Exams and quizzes may include any of the following: multiple choice, true/false, identification, and short answer based on lectures and reading assignments.

Each lecture exam will be worth 100 points. Quizzes will be worth 10 points each for a total of 100 points. The final exam will be comprehensive and worth 150 points. There will be no extra credit and no curve in the course.

Semester exams (3 X 100 pts)	300 pts
Final exam	150 pts
Online Quizzes (10 X 10 pts)	<u>100 pts</u>
Total	550 pts

Laboratory grades will count as 25% of the total grade. The laboratory average will be multiplied by 0.25 and the lecture average will be multiplied by 0.75. For example, if one receives a 74% ave. in lecture and a 93% ave. in lab. To calculate the average for the course, take $74\% \times 0.75 = 55.5$ and take $93\% \times 0.25 = 23.25$. Add the results $55.5 + 23.25 = 78.75\%$ average for the course.

Exam Policy and Important Class Dates

Exams will be given during the class period on the dates listed below. Do not miss an exam! There are **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS**. If you miss an exam, then I will take the percentage grade that you earn on the final exam and count that for **ONE EXAM** grade that you miss. **EVERYONE MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM.**

Exam 1: September 19th **Exam 2:** October 17th **Exam 3:** November 14th

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 5, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Grading Scale:

A = 90 – 100% B = 80 – 89% C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69% F = 59% and below

Online Quizzes

Quizzes will come directly from reading assignments and lecture material. Please complete the reading assignments prior to attempting the online quizzes. Quizzes will be posted to Blackboard each Monday or Tuesday and will close each Sunday at 11:30 pm. You may access the quiz by logging into Blackboard at:

<https://shsu.blackboard.com>

Academic Honesty

I expect you to fulfill your academic obligations through honest and independent effort. If I have sufficient reason to believe you are cheating on any graded work in this course, you will be dropped from the course with a failing grade. You may refer to the SHSU Academic Policy Manual, student section, Policy #810213 for specific language.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Any student with documented disabilities who may need classroom academic adjustments or auxiliary aids and services may request academic accommodations (for example, a note taker). Students must request assistance with academically related problems stemming from a disability by contacting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling (936) – 294-1720. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements.

Class Policies on Attendance/Behavior

The university requires that I take attendance for the course. *More than **eight** absences (for any reason) will result in a failing grade for the course, regardless of your earned grade.* Your attendance, motivation, and participation are integral to your success in this course. Regular attendance is by far the easiest way to achieve a good grade in this course. I implore you to attend each and every class and to actively participate.

I expect that you will act like adults. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please **turn cell phones off** during class and respect your peers.

If **you** decide to drop the course, it is **your** responsibility to fill out the necessary paperwork or you will receive a grade based upon your performance in the class regardless of the amount of work you completed.

Lecture Topics

*****Please Note***** The topics of lecture are in relative chronological order but are subject to change. The dates of the exams are set and the material to be covered will be clarified based on lecture topics completed.

Lecture Topics

- 1 Introduction/Earth Formation
- 2 Earth's Interior
- 3 Plate Tectonics
- 4 Minerals
- 5 Rocks and Rock Cycle
- 6 Igneous Rocks
- 7 Volcanoes
- 8 Sedimentary Rocks
- 9 Metamorphic Rocks
- 10 Geologic Time
- 11 Mountain Building
- 12 Earthquakes
- 13 Streams and Floods
- 14 Groundwater
- 15 Energy and Mineral Resources*
- 16 Glaciers and Ice Ages*
- 17 Deserts*
- 18 Climate Change*

Reading Assignment

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 1; Interlude D
- Chapter 2
- Chapter 3
- Interludes A & C
- Chapter 4
- Chapter 5
- Chapter 6; Interlude B
- Chapter 7
- Chapter 10
- Chapter 9
- Chapter 8
- Chapter 14
- Chapter 16
- Chapter 12
- Chapter 18
- Chapter 17
- Chapter 19

*May not get to these topics