

Tentative Syllabus
SCC Geology 305, Earth Science Lecture
Section 17375
SYLLABUS, Spring 2019



Simple math for this course: read book before class + attend class + read again after class + ask questions + study = good grade!

Instructor: Arthur Reed, PG
Classroom: SCC MAIN T12
Telephone: (no campus phone)
Email: artreed@outlook.com
Web: subduction.rocks

Office Hour: TBA (*I can be available to help before class, and at other times on request*)
Canvas: (*there is no Canvas site for this lab at this time*)

Catalog Description: Earth science is an introductory science course that covers a broad range of topics including geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. Sub-topics are introduced and placed into the context of the scientific method. Using recent, historical, and prehistorical earth science events as examples, the course emphasizes the interrelatedness of the various disciplines and focuses on Earth as a dynamic, synthetic, and continually evolving - yet stable - planet.

Units: This course is worth **three** units of physical science lecture credit. This course is transferable to UC/CSU (*see counselor for UC limitations*). A lab for Geology 305 is offered under the catalog listing Geology 306, Earth Science Laboratory, and is meant to complement this class. Geology 305 is a pre- or co-requisite for the lab. See the SCC website for lab requirements, availability, and schedule.

Corequisite: This course is a pre- or corequisite to GEOL 306 (Earth Science Laboratory).

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- evaluate the history and place of Earth in the solar system and universe using the scientific method and scientific principles.
- examine and evaluate systems and processes that operate in the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere.
- analyze problems affecting daily life such as earthquake risks, landslide problems, rising sea levels, global warming, and use and abuse of natural resources.
- explain the practical applications of earth science in a highly technical society and demonstrate scientific literacy in the subject.
- examine how physical properties and processes such as buoyancy and convection drive Earth processes.
- interpret data and observations with relevance to specific course topics, e.g. interpreting meteorological data for use in weather forecasting.

Class Time & Room:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30 - 3:50pm in SCC MAIN T12. The final exam for this class is scheduled for Tuesday May 16, 2019 from 12:45 – 2:45pm (*check SCC website for possible changes*)

Required Materials: 1) textbook, 2) downloaded and printed lecture handouts 3) paper and pens/pencils for taking notes, and 4) a SCC email address and access to the internet (available for free in campus computer labs or online from the campus website).

Required Texts:

Lutgens and Tarbuck, *Foundations of Earth Science* 8th Edition

Optional publisher resources are available at <http://www.pearsonhighered.com/mygeoscienceplace/>.

(*The publisher's site for a similar text (11e) does not require registration:*

http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_tarbuck_escience_11/)

It is important that you read the assigned sections **before coming to class**, and **again** more carefully after class. (*Textbooks for all college courses should be read once before 1st day of class!*)

Teaching style:

Interactive lecture, that may include videos, overhead transparencies, slides, computer animations, maps, and yes...I occasionally call on students in class. Your questions are normally welcome throughout the lecture. I believe strongly that hard work is the single most important ingredient for doing well in college.

Course Website:

Online material for this course, such as topics to be covered each lecture, homework assignments, lecture slides and supplemental material from the publisher, will be available on the course website. You can view the site at: geology305.net.

NOTE: Regularly check the course website for possible changes to the course schedule.

Grades and Grading:

Geol 305	Grading will be based approximately on the following scheme:
	Quizzes: 15%
	Midterms & Final: 75%
	Other Assignments 10%

Grades will be calculated on the following scale (minor adjustment may become necessary):

90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D

Grades are a measure of your performance on assignments and tests in this class, and are not to be interpreted as any reflection of what I think of you as a person. We hope that this measure of performance shows how well you understand and master the class material. If you have comments or suggestions, please contact me.

Exams:

There will be three midterm exams and one final during the semester. The dates of these exams are shown on the class schedule. Any changes to these dates will be announced in class. Exams may consist of multiple choice, fill-in, illustration and short answer questions and will cover material shown on the course schedule. Exams will include material from the book that was not included in the class lecture. **No make-up quizzes or exams will be given unless absence is approved before an exam.** The final exam may be a comprehensive exam covering material from the entire semester.

Expectations:

You are expected to read at a level (college level) that will allow you to understand the concepts presented in your textbook. You are also expected to attend every class (unless you have an emergency situation), keep up with the reading assignments and materials in the textbook, **bring your textbook to class**, bring materials to take notes, and take appropriate measures to study in a way that allows you to understand the course concepts and perform well on the tests.

You may expect this class to require, on average, about 3 hours of outside study for each hour of class lecture for the average student to receive an average grade (C or B). If you feel the need to improve your study skills, please consult your academic counselor.

Makeup policy:

No makeup exams or quizzes will be given unless approval was requested and received before exam date. Extra credit opportunities may be announced in class and may be listed on the course website.

Grade Discrepancies:

If you feel that I have made a mistake in calculating your grade, please see me or email me immediately. Please save your tests and homework if you wish to bring a grade discrepancy to my attention.

Dropping: If you decide to drop the class, please remember to drop the class from your schedule before the published drop deadline so you don't end up with an "F".

Cheating:

You are expected to turn in your own work. You are to take all exams based on what you remember from studying (**no** notes, textbooks, or anything else will be available). Anyone caught cheating may face one or more of the following penalties: no grade for the assignment, an "F" for the course, probation or suspension from the college.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense at SCC. Students caught cheating will face an administrative sanction which may include suspension or expulsion from the college. It is in your best interest to maintain your academic integrity.

Note: Students with special needs should contact me as soon as possible outside of class.

Attendance and Class Rules:

- In order to do well in this class you should attend all lectures. Attendance may be taken in class and the record of attendance will be used to resolve borderline grades. Occasionally extra credit may be earned on in-class work; this extra credit would therefore only be available to those attending that class session.
- Please try to arrive on time. If you are late, please enter quietly and take a seat near the door to minimize disruption to the class.
- If you need to leave class early (i.e. for an appointment), please let me know beforehand and take a seat near the door.
- **End all private conversations once class begins.**
- Please do not eat food during class.
- If you decide to drop the class, it is your responsibility to take necessary steps following the school's procedures.
- Please turn your cell phones **OFF** while in class. If you are expecting an important call that you have to answer, please inform me before the beginning of class and leave your phone on silent mode.