

Geology 100: The Dynamic Earth



Spring 2008

Lecture: Tuesday, Thursday: 8:30 to 9:45 am; REND 203
Lab: 3 afternoon, 2 evening sessions, corequisite for course
Website: <http://www.isu.edu/~crosbenj/Teach/Geo100>

Instructor: Ben Crosby, PS 229, 282-2949. crosbenj@isu.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:30 to 3:30 pm or as arranged by email.

Text: Elemental Geosystems, 5th Edition, Christopherson, **REQUIRED**
ISBN: 0131497022. Expect insurmountable difficulties without it. Supplemental reading will be provided digitally during the semester.

Course Description:

This course can be coarsely divided into two units. First we focus on the interactions between the 4 fundamental components of the Earth System:

- The Solid Earth
- The Atmosphere
- The Hydrosphere
- The Biosphere

The second portion of the course focuses on the way humans are inextricably linked to this system. We will examine how humans are dependent upon its resources, sensitive to its hazards and exert a strong influence on its long term stability and function.

Grades:	<u>% of grade</u>	
Midterm	35	(March 6 th during class)
Final Exam	45	(May 6 th 7:30am-9:30am)
Occasional Exercises	20	(via Moodle and handouts)

Instructional Technology Requisite

Every student in this class must have his or her own **ISU** email account. I will use email to notify you of events and changes in the class. Email is also the best method of reaching me quickly and getting/scheduling individual help.

"Extra credit" work

No "extra credit" work will be assigned for the purposes of changing grades.

Laboratory exercises

*The laboratory portion of the course is required. Please make sure you are registered for a Geology 100 lab. Labs **will** meet the first week of classes.* The laboratory exercises are a very important component of this course. They will build on material presented in lectures and ask you to apply that material. Plan to come every week and work diligently and have fun. Your TAs are a great resource...try to take advantage of their experience.

How to succeed in this course

- a) Read the pertinent chapter in the textbook before coming to lecture
- b) Take legible, thorough notes in class and while you read the text.
- c) Review your notes frequently. Don't wait until the night before an exam and cram.
- d) Ask questions in class, and/or come to my office hours or visit your lab instructor.
- e) Study with a classmate. Try to explaining course material to friends or family. You will always learn more working with others than on your own.
- f) Come to your laboratory session every week, work diligently, and tune in.
- g) Come to every lecture, for the whole class period. Stay awake!
- h) Don't miss the exams or assignments: *truly exceptional* circumstances only.

If you have general questions about schedules (or anything else), visit Supplemental Advising, located in 316 of the Administration Building (282.3277). If you are struggling with this course or another, take advantage of the resources available to you at The Center for Teaching and Learning (282-3662). If you have questions about becoming a Geologist or Earth Scientist, please let me know. I'd love to talk.

A Preliminary Schedule for Geo 100...as with the earth, things might shift a bit.

Week	Dates	Topic	Chapters
1	Jan 15, 17	Introduction to the Course and the 4 Earth Systems	1
2	Jan 22, 24	Earth and Moon Origin and Composition	Supplemental
3	Jan 29, 31	Atmosphere, Oceans and Fresh Water: Solar Energy, Circulation, Climate, Hydrologic Cycle	2, 3
4	Feb 5, 7		4, 5
5	Feb 12, 13		6,7
6	Feb 19, 21	Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes	8, 9, sup.
7	Feb 26, 28		8, 9, sup.
8	Mar 4, 6	Solid Earth ctd. / Mid-Term Exam , Mar 6 th	8, 9, sup.
9	Mar 11, 13	The Biosphere and its response to physical systems	16, sup.
10	Mar 18, 20		16, sup.
11	Mar 25, 27	SPRING BREAK!	-
12	Apr 1,3	Humans and the Earth System	17
13	Apr 8,10	Natural Hazards	Selected: 9, 10, 11
14	Apr 15, 17	Earth Resources	Supplemental
15	Apr 22, 24	Global Climate Change: Influence and Impact on Humans	7, (468-481)
16	Apr 29, May 1		17, Sup.
17	May 6	Final Exam: 7:30am-9:30am	-

Our program is committed to all students achieving their potential. If you have a disability or think you have a disability (physical, learning disability, hearing, vision, psychiatric) which may need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the ADA Disabilities & Resource Center located in Graveley Hall, Room 123, 282-3599 as early as possible.