

Geology 601 – Advanced Physical Geology
Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30-10:45 AM
Fall 2007 Syllabus

Instructors:

Dave Rodgers, PS 223, 282-4634, rodgdavi@isu.edu

Ben Crosby, PS 229, 282-2949, crosbenj@isu.edu

Course Goals

- (1) To distinguish between facts and theory and interpret data of variable quality from various sources
- (2) To critique recent discoveries in tectonics, petrology, and climatology
- (3) To improve communication skills
- (4) To learn some pearls of wisdom regarding the ISU graduate program

Course Schedule:

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Aug 27	Introduction. What is science? How do I succeed in the ISU graduate program?
Sept 3	<i>Mantle plumes – do they exist? Beneath Yellowstone?</i>
Sept 10	(cont.)
Sept 17	<i>Plate motions determined from GPS measurements</i>
Sept 24	Plate motions (Tuesday); No Class Thursday
Oct 1	Research presentations (Leif, Nancy, Paul) (Tuesday); Uplift & Erosion (Thursday)
Oct 8	<i>Uplift and erosion in mountain building</i>
Oct 15	(cont.)
Oct 22	(cont.) (Tuesday); Midterm exam (Thursday)
Oct 29	GSA (Tuesday); Research presentations (Ben, Dave)
Nov 5	<i>Evidence for past & present climate change</i>
Nov 12	(cont.)
Nov 19	No Class – Thanksgiving Break
Nov 26	Theses (Esther, Caleb) (Tuesday); Research (Dan, Glenn, Scott) (Thursday)
Dec 3	Student-selected discussion topic - <i>PT extinction</i>
Dec 10	(cont.) (Tuesday); Review (Thursday)
Dec 18	Final Exam, Tuesday, 8:30am-10:30am

Grading:

20% Midterm exam

25% Final exam

25% Essays and Problem Sets

30% Student-led discussion and class participation

Assignments

Students will read 1-3 papers or book chapters each week. Class time will be devoted to lectures or discussion of the readings. Essays and problem sets will be assigned to complement the in-class lectures and discussions.

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.