Instructor: Robert C. Smith
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Lab Room: 130
Lecture Room: 205

Course Description: Physical Geology is the study of the Earth’s composition, structure and internal and external processes. This includes the geologic history of the Earth, the evolution of life and topics of interest. Three lecture hours, three laboratory hours per week.


Course Website: http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/classware/selfstudy.do?isbn=0072826924
for the On-Line Learning Center (OLC) that comes with your textbook

Course Objective:
1. Develop an understanding of the materials we use from the earth.
2. Develop an understanding of the structure of the earth and the processes that modify its surface.
3. Develop the ability to recognize various landforms and understand Plate Tectonics
4. Develop an understanding how government and government actions influence geology.
5. Skills the student will be taught:
   a) to learn to identify common minerals.
   b) to learn to identify common rocks from the three major rock groups.
   c) to learn to use topographic and geologic maps to recognize geologic features.
   d) to learn to use air photos to recognize geologic features on the earth’s surface.
   e) to learn to describe the history of the earth as revealed in a cross-section.

Lecture:
This part of the course is worth 75% of your final grade. There will be three examinations, each worth 100 points, over selected chapters. Terminology quizzes over the previous lecture will be culminated and be worth a total of 100 points. A Landforms and Topics examination will occur on the date of the Final Examination. The chapters for the respected examinations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters Required</th>
<th>Dates – all times at 6:00 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>approximately February 16, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13</td>
<td>approximately March 30, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3 – Chapters 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20</td>
<td>approximately May 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Exam – Landforms &amp; Topics</td>
<td>6:00 – 9:00 PM May 13, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examinations: There will be three examinations on course materials in lecture. Each is worth 100 points. These exams will contain questions that required the student to use vocabulary learned in the course. Some exam questions require students to describe the processes or topics of geology as learned from class discussions or covered in the assigned reading. Lectures are designed to review the reading material and to put the processes, and topics into perspective. Students must take the examination at the posted time. In the event a student must miss an exam, due to circumstances beyond their control, a make-up exam will be administered. If such a make-up is given it may not be the same as the original.

Project Exam is on Landforms and Topics. You will be introduced to the landforms throughout the course and from assigned readings. It is your responsibility to understand how these features is described, how to recognize them and explain their impact on the surface features on the earth.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be used to evaluate class progress with assimilating the reading and lecture information. The quizzes are collectively worth 100 points. Quizzes may occur in lecture or in lab. The best ten quizzes will count for this part of your grade. There will be more than ten quizzes offered and your lower scores may be dropped. Do not expect the quizzes to be available for makeup if you are unable to attend the class when the quiz was administered. In the event something happens; call me.
Laboratory:
This part is worth 25% of your final grade. The material is designed to teach the student how to recognize minerals, rocks, structures and interpret geological events from cross-sections and maps. Some labs will have assigned reading prior to the lab.

Laboratory Examinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Dates – all times at 6:00 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minerals</td>
<td>approximately February 25, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Igneous Rocks</td>
<td>approximately February 25, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedimentary Rocks</td>
<td>approximately April 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metamorphic Rocks</td>
<td>approximately April 29, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping Geological Structures</td>
<td>approximately May 6, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Policy:
Assessment of your grade
Three lecture exams & quiz average ---55%
Final exam ------- 15%
Five laboratory exams average ---------- 25%
Class Precipitation ---- 5% "based on class attendance & class participation"

The grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

- 89.5 - 100 ---- A
- 79.5 - 89.4 -- B ** If you are a graduating Sophomore, School Policy states you can
- 69.5 - 79.4 -- C  skip the final Exam. However taking the exam usually raises the
- 59.5 - 69.4 -- D  students grade by a Letter.....
- 59.4 and below -- F

Student Conduct in the Class:
Any conduct occurring in the class or lab that is considered disruptive to the instructor or other members of the class is not allowed. The conduct can be anything from rude talking or other behavior, snoring, un-necessary moving around or any number of other actions. Please understand that the purpose of the course is to teach and the actions by one may interfere with this process. Disruption of class by the sounds of cell phones and paging devices is forbidden. A student facing the possibility of receiving an emergency message by one of these means may leave the device turned on during class, but the student must inform the instructor of the possibility at the beginning of class. **Unless facing an emergency call, the student must turn the device off at the beginning of class and turn it back on only after the class has been dismissed. No Texting.** Routine work-related calls are not considered emergencies nor or personal calls from friends or business associates. During lecture or exams, students may NOT use any electronic devices (ipod, cell phone, recording device or camera) Any student caught cheating will receive a ZERO. Cheating is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offence and can be used as grounds to drop a student from the class. **Be on Time for class******And If you do not come to class it will be difficult to pass.

Attendance Policy: For class attendance policy, refer to Class Attendance found on page 29 of the 2001-2012 General Catalog. A sign-in sheet will be used to keep accurate records of attendance. Excused absences are still counted in the total number of absences. The fact that an absence is excused means only that the student has the opportunity to make up the work missed during the absence without penalty to his/her grade. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to the absence whenever possible. This is required by the student in order to be allowed to complete make-up work. In the event it is allowed, the work must be completed in a time frame agreeable by the instructor or a grade of zero will be recorded. Unexcused absences during scheduled exams will result in a grade of zero being recorded. **Bottom-line:** talk to your instructor concerning absences. **Students with a failing average due to excessive absences or 4 absences total; Will be withdrawn from the course.**

Students with Special Needs: Students who qualify for special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should notify the instructor the first week of class. It is the student’s responsibility to provide the necessary documentation to the Special Populations Coordinator.