

GEOL 1121: Earth Processes and Environments (Fall 2008)

A physical geology course with an emphasis on environmental issues; satisfies area II of the Core Curriculum and the Environmental Literacy Requirement

Text: Montgomery, C.W., Environmental Geology (8<sup>th</sup> edition)

MWF 12:20-1:10 in Room 142, Geography and Geology Building

Instructor: Michael Roden (Office: 310 GG building; tel#: 542-2416, email: [mroden@uga.edu](mailto:mroden@uga.edu);  
Office hours 3:15-4:00 TR or by appointment)

Teaching Assistant: Kristen Longfellow ( [kris4dmb@uga.edu](mailto:kris4dmb@uga.edu) )

Grading:

Cumulative Final Exam: 30%

Hour Exams (lowest grade dropped): 40%

Quizzes and homeworks: 30%

Grades will be curved and the mean grade in the course will be a C+ or a B-. There will be an extra credit field trip worth 3 to 5 total points (on a scale of 100); more about this on Wednesday, August 20. *Students with an A average on hour exams and quizzes/homeworks, will be excused from the final exam.*

The course material is not particularly difficult but is extensive. ***Exam materials will be drawn from my lecture notes.*** Class attendance is not monitored but there are *no* makeups (unless you have a university-approved excuse) for pop quizzes, and exams are based on materials covered in class. Reading assignments serve as background and should be done before class. Editing class notes soon after each class will help you to identify problem areas and reinforce key concepts. Note that the publisher maintains a study website at [www.mhhe.com/montgomery8e](http://www.mhhe.com/montgomery8e) . Our department website (<http://www.gly.uga.edu> ) contains information on research interests of faculty as well as numerous links to environmental/geological sites. .

**Rules of the game:** I expect students to behave with civility in class; that means that you should treat your peers, and me with respect. Anyone who is repeatedly disruptive will be dropped from the class. Please, please turn off your cell phones (that means no text messaging!) before coming to class. If you come in late, enter the classroom quietly and find a place to sit without disturbing the class or lecturer.

Schedule

week of	Topic	Reading
Aug 18	Earth in Space	Ch. 1
Aug 25	Rocks and Minerals	Ch 2
Sept 1	Monday is Labor day; Geologic time	Appendix A

Sept 8                      Plate Tectonics                      Ch 3

**Exam 1: Sept 15**

Sept 15                      Earthquakes                      Ch 4  
Sept 22                      Volcanoes                      Ch 5  
Sept 29                      Soils & Weathering                      Ch 12

**Midpoint of term is Oct 9**

Oct 6                      Water Resources                      Ch 11

**Exam 2: Oct. 13**

Oct 13                      Water Pollution                      Ch 17; pp. 471-2  
Oct 20                      Coastal Processes, Oceanography                      Ch 7; pp 225-7

**Withdrawal Deadline: Oct 23**

Oct 27                      Climate Change (fall break is Oct 31)                      Ch 9 & 10

**Exam 3: Nov 7**

Nov 3                      Climate Change                      Ch 9 & 10  
Nov 10                      Energy Resources- Fossil Fuels                      Ch 14  
Nov 17                      Mineral Resources                      Ch 13  
Dec 1                      Planetary Geology                      TBA  
Dec 8                      Review