

GEOL 1121: Earth Processes and Environments (Fall 2009)

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 (8th edition)

MWF 12:20-1:10 in Room 200A, Geography and Geology Building

Instructor: Michael Roden (Office: 310 GG building; tel#: 542-2416, email: mroden@uga.edu;
Office hours MW 1:30-3:00 or by appointment)

Teaching Assistant: Michael Bonomo

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 19. *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. Our department website (<http://www.gly.uga.edu>) contains information on research interests of faculty as well as numerous links to environmental/geological sites. My lecture materials will be posted on my website: <http://www.gly.uga.edu/Roden/>.

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 19	Earth in Space	Ch. 1
Aug 24	Rocks and Minerals	Ch 2

August 31	Geologic time, Plate tectonics	Appendix A; Ch 3
Sept 7	Monday is Labor Day Plate Tectonics	Ch 3

Exam 1 Sept 14

Sept 14	Earthquakes	Ch 4
Sept 21	Volcanoes	Ch 5
Sept 28	Soils & Weathering	Ch 12

Midpoint of term is Oct 8

Oct 5	Water Resources	Ch 11
-------	-----------------	-------

Exam 2: Oct. 12

Oct 12	Water Pollution	Ch 17; pp. 471-2
Oct 19	Coastal Processes, Oceanography	Ch 7; pp 225-7

Withdrawal Deadline: Oct 22

Oct 26	Climate Change (fall break is Oct 30)	Ch 9 & 10
--------	---------------------------------------	-----------

Exam 3: Nov 6

Nov 2	Climate Change	Ch 9 & 10
Nov 9	Energy Resources- Fossil Fuels	Ch 14
Nov 16	Mineral Resources	Ch 13
Nov 30	Planetary Geology	TBA
Dec 7	Review	