Earth Science (Lecture)
Mount San Antonio College
Course Syllabus & Outline – Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Mark Boryta
Office: 60-1102
e-mail: mboryta@mtsac.edu Office Ext: 5266

Office Hours: Note the location!
- Mon: 1:30-3 in 11-2310
- Tue & Thu: 10-11:10, Tue: 3-3:30 in 60-1102
- or by appointment

Class Meets: Mon, 8:00 - 11:10 a.m. in 60-1515 and is linked to GEOL 8L, meeting on Wed, also at 8:00 - 11:10 a.m. in 60-1515

Class Web Page: http://faculty.mtsac.edu/mboryta/geol8.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Fundamental principles of geology, oceanography, weather/climate, and astronomy. Participation in a field trip is required.

REQUIRED TEXT: Lutgens et al., Foundations of Earth Science 7/e (2nd Mt SAC custom edition but really 3rd!)

FORMAT: Class will consist of group discussions, in-class activities and lectures; multimedia presentations and videos will aid visualization. Study Guides and some assignments will be on the Internet. Participation in field trip is an essential part of this course!

SLOs: The course’s current Learning Outcomes (Measurable Objectives) are at http://webcms.mtsac.edu/webcms/search.asp

GENERAL INFORMATION: Every day you interact with the natural world around you. You can’t help making decisions that affect both it and yourself. To make your interactions positive, you must have an understanding of the material presented in this class. Questions pertaining to the subject matter are strongly encouraged – no, requested! - at any and all times, in class or by e-mail. Lengthy discussions or questions about material beyond the scope of this class may need to be postponed/resumed at another time.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: I assume that you have made the choice to sign up for this class because you want to understand more about your place in the world around you. In order to take full advantage of your educational opportunity, here are some things you can do and skills you should have or work on:

1. First, if this class seems difficult for you, seek help from me AS SOON AS YOU CAN. I am here to help!
2. Come to each and every class, on time; this is a college-level class, and we will cover material that is not in your book.
3. READ AND UNDERSTAND the assignments prior to coming to class. Don’t just read it! (“College level rigor” is defined as a minimum of three hours of work per week per unit of credit, including class time).
4. TAKE PART IN CLASS! This class is for YOU, so try to answer and ask questions!
5. Take good notes on the important concepts as you read and as you pay attention in class. If you’ve read the text ahead of time, you’ll know how to spell new words and you won’t have to write everything down! It may help you to rewrite your notes after each class.
6. STUDY the illustrations! “A picture is worth a thousand words” applies to your textbook.
7. Attempt the review questions and be familiar with the Key Terms for each chapter.
8. Start studying now for the next exam! The best ways to do that are to
   a) download the study guide from the Internet, and
   b) involve yourself in a study group.
9. Finally, if this class seems difficult for you, seek help from me AS SOON AS YOU CAN. I am here to help!

ASSESSMENT: Your grade will be based on your understanding of course material as assessed by (nearly) weekly quizzes, activities, 3 exams (including a comprehensive final), and a field trip. Extra credit exercises may be offered at various times throughout the semester, but these will NOT make up for otherwise poor performance!
**QUIZZES:** About every week STARTING WEEK #2 there will be a short multiple-choice quiz during class. These will not be announced; no makeup quizzes will be given. You will need a #2 pencil and SCANTRON Card (Form #815-E) to complete each quiz. Each quiz will be worth 10 points, and will cover material since the last quiz.

**ACTIVITIES:** There will be various in-class activities throughout the semester; these will be worth various points. Activities will include such things as presentations and reports. More information will come separately...

**EXAMS:** There will be two exams and a COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM. These will involve some combination of multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer/essay. For these you will need to bring a calculator, a #2 pencil and a SCANTRON Card (Form #882). Exam dates are noted on the Outline; those dates will NOT change, but the exam content will reflect class progress.

If you must miss one exam (NOT INCLUDING THE FINAL – don’t miss that!!!) for a verifiable medical emergency or death (CHECK WITH ME), you may be able to make it up for fewer points before it is handed back to the class. Legitimate excuses MUST be verified; “I had a cold,” “I overslept” or “I couldn’t get a ride” don’t qualify!

**FIELD TRIP:** Participation in a field trip is required; there may be several choices, for which details will be available later. The field trip will involve a full day of moderate hiking. You can earn up to 50 points for actively participating in a field trip and turning in the assignment that’s given, but if you do not fulfill the field trip requirement, you will get an “F” in the class! The Fall 2014 Field Trip is not yet scheduled but will likely be on a Friday in late Oct or early Nov; we will depart at 7:30 a.m. and return by 6 p.m.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:** Electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, translators, etc. – calculators okay!) may not be used in class AT ANY TIME, unless, of course, instructed to do so. If you text in class or your cell phone goes off in class, you will be penalized 10 points and your cell phone will be confiscated until the end of class! (Breaks too!)

**ATTENDANCE:** It is important to come to class. Reading the book does not affect your understanding of the material in the same way that interacting with others in class will; besides, some of the material we will cover is not found in your book. Since you chose this class over others, I will assume that you intend to be here, and if you miss a class then a real emergency has occurred. As long as it is not an exam day, you need not bring an excuse, but you cannot make up a quiz under any circumstances. If something is due, you must still turn it in on time; give it to a classmate or e-mail it to me.

Attending class means doing more than filling a seat. This is YOUR class, and YOU can get out of it what YOU put into it. You should have enough respect for yourself (YOUR time is valuable!) that you take every advantage of this opportunity to learn as much of this interesting and very important material as you can. Furthermore, you should not be disruptive —don’t let your cell phone go off, don’t show up late or unprepared, don’t snore, etc. You should always respect your peers.

Attendance Regulations: Roll is taken at the beginning of class each day. Starting with the SECOND week of class (_______), you will be marked TARDY if you come in during roll but after your name is called, and you will be marked ABSENT if you are not present during roll. This means that even if you come in “only” 5 minutes late, you’ll be marked absent! Furthermore, if you leave class early, you will be marked absent. Excessive tardiness/absence will result in your grade being lowered - by one letter for every 2 absences!

**DROP POLICY:** You should read the College Attendance, Drop and Withdrawal Policies (find them in the Schedule of Classes). In this class, if you missed the field trip, are not passing the class and/or are marked absent for one exam or more than 2 classes by the final drop date, I may drop you (unless you have cleared your circumstances with me). However, DO NOT expect me to drop you – if you are no longer attending class, you should take the initiative to drop or you may receive a grade of F! Remember, these rules are in place to help YOU succeed! Below are important drop deadlines for the current semester:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Day To:</th>
<th>Add the Class</th>
<th>Withdraw w/ Refund</th>
<th>Withdraw w/ NO Refund and no &quot;W&quot;:</th>
<th>Withdraw w/o Refund Oct 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is:</td>
<td>Sept 5</td>
<td>Sept 5</td>
<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>Oct 31</td>
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Cheating: Of course cheating is not tolerated. A student who plagiarizes or cheats in any way shall fail the course, and a letter will be written and placed in the student’s file in Student Services. DO NOT turn in work that is not your own. Just don’t do it!

Your grade in this course will be determined from my assessment of your understanding of the material, based on the total number of points you earn as a percentage of the total expected:

- Mastery: A = >90%
- Solid: B = 80 - 89%
- Basic: C = 70 - 79%
- Partial: D = 60 - 69%
- Insufficient: F = <60%
Reading Assignments: The following is a TENTATIVE (i.e., subject to change) schedule indicating the order of topics and the textbook chapters to be covered. You should come to class having read and understood the material well enough that you are prepared to discuss it!

¡Earth Science Time!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic: Earth Science</th>
<th>Read</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/25</td>
<td>Introduction/Overview; Scientific Method; Atoms &amp; Chemical Bonds</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/1</td>
<td>Labor Day – NO CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>Minerals and Igneous Rocks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/15</td>
<td>Igneous Rocks and Processes; Weathering</td>
<td>2, 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/22</td>
<td>Exam #1 covering Chap 1, 2, and 7; then Sedimentary Rocks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Metamorphic Rocks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Geologic Time</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/13</td>
<td>Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes</td>
<td>5, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Oceans, Currents and Sediments of the Sea; Waves, Coastal Features</td>
<td>9, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Exam #2 covering chapters 5, 6, 8, 9 &amp; 10; then Heating the Atmosphere, Clouds and Precipitation</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Heating the Atmosphere, Clouds and Precipitation</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>Atmosphere in Motion, Severe Weather</td>
<td>13, 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/24</td>
<td>Origins of Modern Astronomy; Solar System</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>Solar System and Beyond</td>
<td>16</td>
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</tbody>
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Comprehensive Final Exam: includes ALL chapters, and will be worth 200 points; it will be on __________, December ______ at _________ in Rm 60-1515 (Homework: Fill in the blanks using, e.g., the Schedule of Classes)

¡Earth Science Time!