

COLLEGE THE REDWOODS Syllabus for GEOL-1-D4702

as of January 15, 2023. Prof. Renner reserves the right to make changes at any time; you'll be notified if it's been changed

Course Information

Semester & Year:Spring 2023 Course ID & Section #:GEOL-1-D4702 Day/Time of required meetings:Lectures: 10:05 AM - 11:30 AM on Tuesdays & Thursdays in Room 23; Labs: 10:05AM - 1:15 PM on Fridays in Room 23 (several field trips this semester occur during the "lab period" as well) Course units:4

Instructor Contact Information

Office location:Remote (by phone or Zoom, etc.), and/or room 23 (after class) or TBD Phone number:Not available (or TBD); instead, use Canvas messaging to contact instructor Availability:

I normally reply to Canvas messages, emails and posts to the "Questions for the Instructor" forum in Canvas within 24 hours Mon.-Thu. or within 72 hours Fri.-Sun. If a situation arises that prevents my participation or response within this time frame, I will notify the class in an announcement, and will subsequently announce when I've returned.

Required Materials

TEXTBOOK: Essentials of Geology, Sixth Edition (Marshak; published by W.W. Norton), ISBN: 978-0393667523. The Sixth Edition book may be available through the CR Bookstore or from other vendors. You may use an electronic or rented version if available, or you may buy a used text if available since you do NOT need an access code. Do NOT buy the newest 7th edition book! This 6th edition book saves you a LOT of money and is superb.

LAB MANUAL: For this class you must buy (or print) and use a lab manual written by Prof. Renner and printed & sold at The Mail Room (900 Northcrest Drive). It is also available for you as free PDF downloads (in Canvas) if you wish (although if you decide to download & print it, you'll likely pay a lot more for your own printer ink & paper than if you'd merely buy it at The Mail Room). More details will be provided on the first day of class.

Catalog Description

An introductory study of physical geology with an emphasis on geologic principles and processes. The course explores the internal structure, processes, and origin of the Earth, and the processes of water, wind, gravity, and plate tectonics that contribute to the formation of the Earth's surface. The laboratory component focuses on the identification of rocks and minerals, the reading and interpretation of topographic and geologic maps, and field studies. Students will explore principles of mineral and rock formation, landform development, plate tectonics, volcanism, folding and faulting, and related topics.

Note: Field Trips are required for this course. The college does not provide transportation. We collaboratively determine car-pooling in class or lab so that students with no car can still participate.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- 1. Describe how the scientific method is used to understand natural phenomena.
- 2. Describe the basic elements of plate tectonic theory, including how internal processes help shape the Earth.
- 3. Apply classification systems to organize and identify igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rock specimens and mineral specimens, and demonstrate how these classification systems are used to understand Earth processes.
- 4. Apply geologic principles to describe how earth materials and landscapes change over time, including description of how interactions of Earth systems result in geologic change.

Prerequisites / co-requisites / recommended preparation

None. However, college-level fluency in English is expected since you will do a lot of reading and writing.

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Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor

Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library

Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Student Support from your Instructor

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Student Support Services from CR

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student in this class:

- Help with online tools and student accounts, including Canvas (https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/)
- Library articles & databases (https://redwoods.libguides.com/az.php)

Much other information of use can be found in various places on CR's website: https://www.redwoods.edu

Class Policies & Practices

Rigor

This is a degree-requirement, transfer-level, lab-based science course. It is comparable in rigor to similar courses taught at any UC or CSU institution. It's imperative that you keep up, as the material will build upon itself. You will most likely succeed* at this class if you work consistently and diligently, participate actively, and submit all work; otherwise, a low or failing grade can be a likely outcome. * Remember, a grade of 'C' means 'satisfactory'; an 'A' grade means 'excellent' – in brief, to obtain an 'A' in this course will require outstanding effort and results. 'A' grades are sometimes earned in this course, but do not expect an 'A' (or even a 'B') without doing the serious work to earn it. For the full description of how grades are assigned, please refer to page 5.

How to Succeed

A "best practice" (which students who've gotten grades of 'A' usually follow) is to **GET AHEAD AND STAY AHEAD of**your reading. You will ALWAYS be expected to have read the lecture document(s) for the week's class sessions

BEFORE CLASS, along with textbook chapter(s) cited in the lecture documents. Likewise for each week's lab: you

MUST read the lab document BEFORE lab (to become familiar with what we'll be covering). Finally, right before class or lab, it would be helpful to review what you've already read for that week's work, so that when you enter the classroom or lab you will be thoroughly prepared.

What to do if class is cancelled, or if you miss a class or lab

Classes or labs might be cancelled unexpectedly (instructor illness, etc.). (If this happens, college staff and/or I will contact you.) IF SO, CONTINUE TO DO THE WORK OUTLINED IN THE CLASS SCHEDULE AS BEST AS POSSIBLE. Upon our very next class, I will bring us back up to speed, but this is ONLY possible IF you continue to do the work outlined in the Class Schedule; at the very minimum, do all the assigned readings on schedule.

NOTE: If <u>you</u> miss class or lab, contact the instructor as soon as you can. **Excessive absences can be grounds for being dropped from class** (see next section), **so communication with the instructor is absolutely imperative**.

Expectations on Students, and General Information

Please be aware of the following:

- Participation: For this class, "participation" is defined as ACTIVE, REGULAR, ENGAGED INVOLVEMENT IN
 CLASS DISCUSSIONS, ACTIVITIES, LABS and ASSIGNMENTS (not merely the act of showing up for class).
 Furthermore, weekly class quizzes, assignments and other instructor-led activities require continuous involvement and have specific deadlines (which are specified in the separate Class Schedule and/or in the assignments themselves). To ensure that you succeed, plan to participate thoroughly in class and do any/all needed study & preparation before class. Missing classes or labs will prevent complete participation, so attend and actively participate in every class and lab if possible!
- <u>Instructor-Initiated Drops</u>: Because consistent attendance & participation are crucial components in this class, I may unenroll ("drop") you if any of the following should occur:
 - <u>During Week Three (between Jan. 30 Feb. 3)</u>: Students may be dropped who the instructor has
 determined to have exhibited poor or irregular participation and/or attendance in the first two weeks of
 class (in which case their transcript will NOT show a class "attempt").
 - After Week Three and at any time until Mar. 31: Students may be dropped (in which case they WILL get a "W" on their transcript) if any one of these apply: *
 - 1) If a student fails to attend four (4) or more **lecture** sessions; or
 - 2) If a student fails to attend two (2) or more lab sessions; or
 - 3) If a student fails to submit/participate in or is chronically late in submitting/participating in significant portions of class or lab assignments/activities/reports
 - * If you are in jeopardy of being dropped for any of the reasons listed above, your instructor will attempt to contact you (by Canvas message and/or by your CR email account and/or by phone) with a "drop warning." If you then wish to appeal to stay in class and not be dropped, you must reply within 24 hours to my drop warning. A student's failure to receive or reply to this drop warning does not provide immunity from being dropped, and the instructor retains the final authority regarding whether or not you will be dropped. If the instructor then submits the drop (normally 48-72 hours after issuing the warning) to Enrollment Services, the drop is final and cannot be reversed; no exceptions.
 - Mar. 31 is the last day I can drop you (see above) or that you can withdraw from this class. After that day, you will receive a letter grade for the course at the end of the semester (even if you've stopped participating in and/or attending class) based upon whatever points/scores you've accumulated during the semester; see "Grading" section on page 5.

- Academic Honesty: In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Conduct Code (AP 5500) is available upon request. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures are all located in the college catalog.
- Class Norms and Expectations: In this class (and in fact in every college class), students must demonstrate mutual respect in their interactions with their peers and with the instructor. In our textbooks, lectures and class discussions, issues may arise that are sometimes difficult and/or controversial. As your instructor, my goal in facilitating these discussions is never to cause anyone to become uncomfortable; rather, my goal is to facilitate discussions that develop our ability to think critically and to have appropriate dialogue in a group setting even when working through material that might feel uncomfortable. As an academic community we share a mutual responsibility to create and maintain a supportive environment where students as well as the instructor feel able to speak up and respond to the course material in a thoughtful and productive way, despite differences in opinions or experiences. This means that each student's ideas, feelings, and questions are valued, and the professor's ideas, feelings, and questions are valued. This shall be the basis for our interactions with the course materials and one another throughout the semester. Don't hesitate to contact me if you find something upsetting or if you need support.

In order to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions, I expect you to use language that is inclusive and respectful. Furthermore, student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; language which is overly loud, vulgar or obscene; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In your communications I expect you to be courteous, constructive and accepting of diversity. I expressly prohibit aggression, harassment, bullying, etc., and treat such as violations of the Student Conduct Code.

- <u>Pay attention to the Class Schedule</u>. Points are assigned to tasks that you're asked to do; failure to do tasks or to do them within the required time frame will cause you to lose points. Late work may be penalized or entirely rejected, at the instructor's sole discretion.
- <u>Major Exams</u>: Lecture exams occur several times during the semester (subject to change; see Schedule), as do Lab exams (again, see Schedule).
- Late or Missed Exams or Assignments: If a documentable situation (e.g. jury duty, serious illness or injury, emergency, etc.) arises that prevents you from submitting assigned major class work * or exams on time, then contact me before (if possible) or as soon as possible after missing the work. If I agree to accept the late work (or to provide a make-up exam), then we will negotiate a timeframe within which the work must be submitted or exam taken. (* Some work items [such as quizzes and class discussions/activities] cannot be made up if missed.)

Grading (on next page)

Grading

Points are earned for completed tasks. Late work may be penalized or entirely rejected, at the instructor's sole discretion. The table below shows how points can be earned. There is NO "EXTRA CREDIT" in this course; do NOT ask for Extra Credit since there will not normally be any such accommodation (unless the instructor creates such an opportunity for everyone). Here is how you earn points in the course:

Course Components and how they factor into the end-of-semester Course Letter Grade1

Lecture Items	Percent ²	Comments
Class Activities	10% (# of activities may vary ³)	Points awarded for <i>active, thoughtful, thorough</i> participation in required class activities/discussions.
Quizzes	10% (# of quizzes may vary ³)	Open-book, open-note quizzes (published in Canvas ONLY) which are to be printed & completed BEFORE selected lectures and/or labs, and then brought to class for interactive grading & submission.
"Mid-term" Exams	16% (2 @ 8% ea.)	Each exam is a synthesis of course materials covered prior to that exam. Closed-book, closed-note. Timed (85 minutes each unless otherwise stated). Exam One in approximately week 6*, Exam Two in approximately week 12* (* subject to change; see Schedule).
Final Exam	14%	This exam is comprehensive , covering all materials covered in the semester. Closed-book , closed-note . Timed (120 minutes unless otherwise stated). Administered on Thursday during Finals Week (see Schedule).
Lab Items	Percent ²	Comments
Lab Completion & Participation	30%	You will be "checked off" on a completion list at the end of each successfully-completed lab exercise, based on your submitted end-of-lab write-ups.
Lab Exams	10% (2 @ 5% ea.)	Mineral exam: Description & ID of a set of "unknown" mineral specimens; Rock exam: Description & ID of a set of "unknown" rock specimens
Rock Project	10%	As per a separate document, you will collect and report on an outcrop and a specimen gathered at that location.

At the end of the semester, a letter grade will be assigned. The instructor may, at his option, uniformly "curve" the cumulative raw class scores upward (but never downward) to derive cumulative final percentage scores. In this course, letter grades are assigned from the cumulative final percentage scores as follows:

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A = 93% or above A- = 90-92.9%

B+ = 86-89.9%
B = 83-85.9%
B- = 80-82.9%
C+ = 76-79.9%
C = 70.0-75.9%
B- = 80-82.9%
F < 60%

(CR policy does not provide for a grade of A+ or C- or D+ or D-)

"Excellent": Fulfills all requirements; exceeds expectations.

"Good": Fulfills all requirements; meets expectations.

"Satisfactory": Fulfills most requirements; meets some expectations.

"Poor": Fulfills some requirements; does not meet expectations.

"Failing": Does not fulfill requirements or expectations.
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Each "Item" category above (such as "Class Activities" or "Quizzes") is assigned a weighting, by percentage, of the entire course's possible value; the categories add up to 100% of the total possible course value. Within any category, grading "points" are assigned for specific items in that category (such as "10 points possible for each quiz", or "100 points possible for each midterm exam", etc.). The usage of "points" allows me to assign easily-understood grading values for each item within a given category AND ³ allows me at any time to add or remove an item(s) within that category without changing that item category's percentage value. While true that "the value of each point" in one category will differ from "the value of each point" in another category, the total points within each category are mathematically converted to the percentage of the course grade for that category as stated in the table above.

If you experience a <u>specific</u>, <u>extenuating circumstance</u> <u>beyond your control</u> preventing you from completing the course work, and face a non-passing grade or the need to withdraw...

... you can complete & submit the **Excused Withdrawal Petition** to request an **Excused Withdrawal (EW)** "grade" (instead of receiving a Withdrawal "grade" [W] or a non-passing grade [D, F, or NP]). Your instructor can provide more information upon request. *Supporting documentation is required*.

Class Schedule

This is provided in a separate "Schedule" document

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies that affect this class

- 1/17/2023 CLASS BEGINS
- 1/20/2023 Last day to add a class
- 1/27/2023 @ 5:00 PM PST Last day to drop without a W
- 2/03/2023 Prof. Renner drops students who have not been fully participating in class
- 2/17/2023 Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed; no lab today)
- 3/02/2023 Last day to petition to graduate; last day to petition for a Certificate
- Week of 3/13 3/17/2023 Spring break (no classes nor lab)
- 3/31/2023 @ 5:00 PM PDT Last day for student-initiated withdrawal; last day for faculty-initiated drop (with W grade issued); no refund
- 5/11/2023 Final exam administered in this class
- 5/12/2023 @ 5:00 pm PDT semester ends: absolutely no materials accepted after this day/time; no exceptions
- 5/19/2023 @ 5:00 pm PDT instructor will release grades to WebAdvisor by no later than today (and probably sooner)
- 5/26/2023 Your grades from the spring semester will be available for transcript release