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Fall 2015

EES 1000

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University of New Orleans

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EES 1000: Dynamic Earth Syllabus – Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Melanie Thompson Stiegler **Email:** mstiegle@uno.edu
Office: Geology & Psychology Rm 1042
Office hours: M 12:30-2:00 & Th 1:00-2:30
Lecture: MWF 11:00-11:50 am
Prerequisite: eligibility to enroll in ENGL 1157

Course materials: *Physical Geology, 14th Edition* by Plummer, Carlson, and Hammerley. The book is available in the bookstore or as an ebook. The ebook can be either downloaded to your computer as a pdf or accessed online from anywhere. For online access, there is an ebook subscription fee that is nonrefundable. There is an option for 180-day registration, after which you will not be able to access the ebook. Additional readings will be available through Moodle. A scantron and #2 pencil are required for exams and quizzes.

Course overview: Geology is a science that involves all aspects of how the Earth works. The study of the geosciences requires both the ability to look at the big picture and the ability to fill in the big picture with details. This class is not about memorizing the names and characteristics of 100 different minerals. Instead, it is about a way of looking at the world around you and learning how to be confident in your observations and interpretations of that world. Core concepts and topics that are covered in this course include:

- Earth Materials – minerals and rocks
- Geologic time and evolution of the planet over 4.6 billion years
- Plate tectonics as unifying theory of Earth Sciences
- Structure of the Earth
- Processes associated with the interior of the Earth
- Processes influencing the surface of the Earth
- Geologic hazards and their impact on humans
- Earth's natural resources.

Student responsibilities: Respect your instructor and your classmates and we will return the favor. Respect includes creating an environment conducive to learning, which means being on time, turning off cell phones, listening, and contributing. A record of class attendance is required by the UNO registrar, there will be a daily sign in sheet. It is to your advantage to come to class and to keep up with the material. I do not lecture straight from the text and many points will not be in the book. There may be unannounced quizzes. You must be in class to earn those points. Please be on time for exams as no one will be allowed entrance after the first person finishes.

Grading Scale: A = 90-100%
 B = 80-89%
 C = 68-79%
 D = 55-67%
 F = Below 55%

Grading:

Exam 1	100 pts
Exam 2	100 pts
Exam 3	100 pts
4 quizzes	15 pts (5 pts each, one quiz will be dropped)
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>125 pts</u>
Total	440 pts

Make-up policy: If you must miss an exam, contact me *at least 48 hours prior* to the exam. If there is a medical excuse, you must present a note signed by a doctor. If no such notice is given, I will expect formal evidence of a sudden emergency that excuses your unannounced absence. *Make-ups will be written exams.* There are NO make-up quizzes. No mechanical devices (cell phones, PDAs, calculators, etc.) are allowed at your desk or on your person during the exam; if caught with one, your exam will be discarded.

Tentative lecture schedule:

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
Ch. 1: Introducing Geology & Ch. 23: The Earth's Companions	p. 3-13, 601-610
Ch. 19: Plate Tectonics	p. 13-20, 485-517
Ch. 2: Atoms, Elements, and Minerals	p. 29-53
Ch. 3: Igneous Rocks	p. 55-80
Ch. 6: Sediment and Sedimentary Rocks	p. 137-167
Ch. 7: Metamorphic Rocks and Hydrothermal Rocks	p. 169-191
Ch. 15: Geologic Structures	p. 385-405
Ch. 8: Time and Geology	p. 193-219
Ch. 4: Volcanism and Extrusive Rocks	p. 83-111
Ch. 16: Earthquakes & Ch. 17: Earth's Interior	p. 407-435, 439-450
Ch. 5: Weathering and Soil & Ch. 9: Mass Wasting	p. 113-135, 221-247
Ch. 10: Streams and Floods	p. 249-283
Ch. 11: Groundwater	p. 285-307
Ch. 12: Glaciers and Glaciation	p. 309-339
Ch. 14: Waves, Beaches, and Coasts	p. 363-383
The Geology of Louisiana	see Moodle
Ch. 20: Mountain Belts and the Continental Crust	p. 521-543
Geology of the Early Earth & Ch. 23: The Earth's Companions	p. 610-635 & see Moodle
Ch. 21: Global Climate Change & Ch.22: Resources	p. 554-555, 571-599

Exam schedule:

EXAM 1: M Sept 14

EXAM 2: W Oct 14

EXAM 3: W Nov 11

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 9, 10:00-12:00 am

Course assistance: If you are having difficulties, don't wait. Come see me! It shows that you care about your education and keeps me from getting too lonely during office hours. If you are having problems the best plan is to see me EARLY in the course. Additionally, the EES department provides free tutoring services staffed by EES graduate assistants and volunteers from the Sigma Gamma Epsilon Honor Society. The Tutor Center is located in Geology & Psychology 1022 and is open M-Th from 10 am to 4 pm.

Students with disabilities: The University of New Orleans is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. If you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). DS is located at 248 University Center. Phone is 504-280-6222. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ODS forms and meet with me at the beginning of the semester.