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GEO 191N.01: ST - Geology of National Parks

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GEO 191N GEOLOGY OF THE NATIONAL PARKS
 Spring Semester 2019, MW 3:00-4:20 pm, CHCB 348
 Prof Jim Sears, CHCB 362

We will learn the basics of geology through the study of National Parks. Each week we will discuss a new geologic concept in the context of a National Park for which that concept is especially well suited. Each week I will give students a set of questions for discussion in class. Students will use internet resources to augment class presentations and discussions. We plan a weekend field trip to Craters of the Moon, Idaho, in April. Honors students will present research papers in the field at Craters of the Moon.

Approximate schedule:

Week of	National Park	Topic
Jan 14	Grand Canyon	Rocks and time
21	Mount Rushmore	Cratons
28	Yellowstone, Hawaii Volcanoes	Hotspots and plate motion
Feb 4	Crater Lake, Mt Rainier	Subduction volcanoes
11	Yosemite	Magmatic arc plumbing
18	Redwood	Subduction zones
25	Olympic	Terrane accretion
Mar 4	Denali	Transform
11	Glacier	Thrust belts
18	Death Valley	Extension
25	SPRING BREAK	
Apr 1	Smoky Mountains	Continental collision
8	Everglades	Passive margins
15	Grand Canyon	Stream erosion
22	Glacier	Glaciation
May 2	FINAL EXAM 3:20-5:20 pm	

Attendance and class participation	20
Discussion questions	40
Field trip participation/presentation	20
Final exam	20