GEOL 1401 (Section 51002), Fall 2020

Instructor Information
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Office Location: A557
Office Hours: TBA

Course Information
Course Title: Earth Science
Course & Section Number: GEOL 1401, Section 51002
Semester/Year: Fall 2020
Credit Hours: 4
Class Meeting Time/Location: TR A722 9:30am-12:20pm (lecture then lab)

Course Description
The Texas Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) lists GEOL 1401 as, “Survey of physical and historical geology, astronomy, meteorology, oceanography, and related sciences.” This course is for the non-science major. It covers the interaction of the earth sciences and the physical world. Physical and historical geology, oceanography, and meteorology are included. Emphasis is placed on a better understanding of earth processes and man. Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number: 40.0601.51 03

Course Prerequisites
Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in reading.

Statement of Purpose and Core Objectives
Statement of Purpose
Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Core Objectives
This course supports, develops, and assesses the following Core Objectives:
A. Critical Thinking Skills (CT) - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
B. Communication Skills (COM) - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
C. Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) - manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
D. Teamwork (TW) - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
Learning Outcomes are based on the Core Objectives above. Students will be able to:

Lecture Objectives
1. Explain the current theories concerning the origin of the Universe and of the Solar System.
2. Explain the place of Earth in the Solar System and its relationships with other objects in the Solar System.
3. Relate the origin and evolution of Earth’s internal structures to its resulting geologic systems, including Earth materials and plate tectonic activities.
4. Explain the operation of Earth’s geologic systems and the interactions among the atmosphere, the geosphere, and the hydrosphere, including meteorology and oceanography.
5. Explain the history of the Earth including the evolution of earth systems and life forms.

Lab Objectives
1. Classify rocks and minerals based on chemical composition, physical properties, and origin.
2. Apply knowledge of topographic maps, diagrams, and/or photographs to identify landforms and explain the processes that created them.
3. Differentiate the types of plate boundaries, explain the processes that occur at each and identify associated structural features on maps, block diagrams and cross sections.
4. Apply relative and numerical age-dating techniques to construct geologic histories.
5. Measure atmospheric processes that affect weather and climate.
6. Describe the composition and motion of ocean water and analyze the factors controlling both.
7. Compare properties and motions of objects in the solar system.
8. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data.

Required Course Materials
Details TBA

Important: Students who are part of the IncludED program do not need to purchase any learning materials unless directed by the instructor.

Helpful to Have:

- Ruler with metric measurements
- Calculator regular not scientific
- Colored pencils
- Pencil and pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- Device that has Internet access
Grading Policy- subject to change

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Tests @ 50 pts each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Study Test Notes 5 @5 pts each</td>
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<td>Lecture Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Practical Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 labs @ 10-20 pts each</td>
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<td>Research Project/Paper</td>
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<td>Pearson Homework Assignments</td>
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<td><strong>Course Total Points = 1000/ 1029ec</strong></td>
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Grade Scale

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Course Policies

Attendance
“You are expected to attend regularly all classes in which you enroll. You have the responsibility to attend class and to consult with the instructor when an absence occurs.” See the DCCCD catalog for more details. I will be taking attendance at every class session. The attendance sheet may only be signed during the first 30 minutes of class.

Make-up Work
Work may only be made-up for extenuating circumstances- with documentation! Not all work can be made-up; for example class assignments and certain labs and classroom activities. Students need to complete a green request form that then has to be approved by the instructor in order to make-up assignments.

Accessing Your Grades
You may keep up with your grades on eCampus under the ‘My Grades’ tool.

Progress Report Grades
Students shall receive 2 sets of progress report grades during the semester. Progress report grades will appear in eConnect and only indicate how the student has performed in class up-to the date for which the report is issued. Although these grades are designed to be helpful, they are not necessarily an indication of the final letter grade in class. An A on a progress report does not guarantee an A in class!
Student Responsibility
This is college and you are responsible for your grade.

Withdrawal Policy
The last day to withdraw from a class without a grade is Thursday, November 12th, 2020, by 5:00 PM in the Registrar’s Office (A130). Failure to withdraw from a course will result in a performance grade (F, in more instances than not.)

Academic Ethics
Any violation of the Student Code of Conduct (see link below) will be penalized accordingly. All violations will be forwarded to the proper college authorities for review. The college may, at its discretion, impose additional penalties on the student including academic probation, suspension, or expulsion.

All labs, research paper, online assignments, and exams must be the product of the student's own personal effort. Same/similar wording on two or more student's labs or other assignments (for questions that are short answer or essay style) can be considered as evidence of dishonesty and all labs/assignments involved can receive a score of zero.

If in grading labs I have reason to suspect cheating and/or collusion, proving innocence is the student’s responsibility, and all involved students – if collusion is proven – will receive a zero (0) on that assignment. I will report the violation immediately and encourage the appropriate authorities to pursue the offense with all due vigor. Be aware that in instances of academic dishonesty, I am relentless and unyielding. Do not give me reason to think you may have committed such an act.

Institutional Policies
Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed from the following link: www.elcentrocollege.edu/syllabipolicies

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary. Provisions contained in this Syllabus do not constitute a contract between the Student and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Discipline Coordinator/Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the Student. The Instructor-of-Record may provide additional information to enhance the course to meet the needs of the enrolled students provided that the enhancements do not conflict with the official course syllabus.