Eastfield College | STEM Division
GEOLOGY 1405 43001
Earth Science
4 CREDIT HOURS
Syllabus/Course Guide
SPRING 2020
Instructor
Robert Oliver

Division: 972-860-8328 (leave message) or 975-860-7140 STEM
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Textbook
By Textbook: Withgott and Laposata, Environment: The Science Behind the Stories Plus Mastering
ISBN: 978-0134145938

GEOL 1405 Environmental Science (4 Credit Hours) TCCNS: GEOL 1405: Earth Science I 2014 Core
Curriculum Foundational Component Area: 030 Life and Physical Sciences

Course Description
A survey of the forces, including humans, that shape our physical and biologic environment, and how
they affect life on Earth. Introduction to the science and policy of global and regional environmental
issues, including pollution, climate change, and sustainability of land, water, and energy resources. (3
Lec., 3 Lab.) Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 0301035301

Student Learning Outcomes Lecture:
1. Recognize, describe, and quantitatively evaluate earth systems, including the land, water, sea, and
atmosphere, and how these function as interconnected ecological systems.
2. Assess environmental challenges facing humans caused by their interaction with the physical and
biological environment (e.g., population growth, energy resources, food production, pollution, water
3. Acquire a scientific vocabulary and critical thinking skills related to environmental science.
5. Apply the scientific method to environmental investigation.
6. Measure and observe aspects of the environment (e.g., air, water, soil) through sampling and sample
analysis.
7. Develop an assessment plan for an environmental case study.
8. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data and resource use).
Laboratory
Lab: 1. Apply the scientific method to environmental investigation. 2. Measure and observe aspects of the environment (e.g., air, water, soil) through sampling and sample 3. analysis. 4. Develop an assessment plan for an environmental case study. 5. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data.

Core Objectives
GEOL 1405 develops the following Core Objectives: Critical Thinking - to include scientific thinking, inquiry, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. Communication - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Empirical and Quantitative Skills - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. Teamwork -to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

Core Objective Development Statements
 GEOL 1405 develops Critical Thinking and Communication by requiring students to analyze and interpret scientific information through constructing documents which include written and visual elements.
 GEOL 1405 develops Empirical and Quantitative Skills by requiring students to collect, organize, analyze and interpret scientific data and/or observations in order to draw a conclusion.
 GEOL 1405 develops Teamwork by requiring students to collaborate and cooperate in order to conduct a scientific investigation or exploration of the scientific method.

Times
C279
LEC
MW
2:00 PM - 3:20 PM

C321
LAB
TR
3:30 PM - 04:50 PM

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to attend all classes.

Student Grade Reports Online
Beginning in the Fall 2003 semester, grade reports will not be mailed out at the end of the semester. Students may check their grades online.

Changes to the Syllabus
The guidelines in this syllabus may be changed, deleted or amended at any time by the instructor. Revisions and changes to the requirements, grading and curriculum are more than likely. Student input on constructive changes is welcome.
Grading

- **Lecture Tests** 400 points
- **Lab Grade** 300 points ([Micro-Lab Project & Two Lab Tests] No make-up on Lab Project or Lab Tests)
- **Lab Packet** 100 points ([Due on time with no late assignments accepted]
- **Lecture Final** 150 points

**Total Points** 950 points
Average out of 100 Total Points ÷10

Ranges for Letter Grades
The final grade is based on (average out of 100):

- **A** = 90 – 100 (> 855 points)
- **B** = 80 – 89 (> 760 points)
- **C** = 70 – 79 (> 665 points)
- **D** = 60 – 69 (> 570 points)
- **F** = 0 – 59 (≤ 569 points)

Notes Concerning Grading
- **Due Dates** – Lab exercises and written work must be turned in at time specified by the instructor. In general, unit tests and some other work may be completed at any time during the course, but landmark completion dates may also be provided.
- **Make-up Tests** – All make-up tests will be essay, definition, and fill-in-the-blank tests.
- **Cheating** – any student caught cheating will receive a failing grade for the work involved and may receive a failing grade for the course.

LECTURE: There will be no make-up exams permitted except in the event of a documented emergency or unless cleared in advance by the instructor.

LAB: There will be no make-up exams permitted

Course Completion – On the final day of the course, a course grade will be assigned based on work completed.

Obtaining Final Course Grades Using **eConnect**
Final Grade Reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online at [www.econnect.dcccd.edu](http://www.econnect.dcccd.edu). Use your identification number when you log onto eConnect, an online system developed by the DCCCD to provide you with timely information regarding your college record. Your grades will also be printed on your **Student Advising Report**, which is available in the Admissions Office.

**Eastfield College Email Policy**
Faculty and students must have and use a DCCCD account for all correspondence relating to academic coursework. For information on setting up a DCCCD student email account go to: [http://www.dcccd.edu/netmail/home.html](http://www.dcccd.edu/netmail/home.html)
Course Outline

How to prepare for a Unit Test

Class/Lab Schedule

Week# | Class Dates (Week of) | Subjects
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1 | Topics: Science and Sustainability; Physical Earth Systems | Reading: Chapters 1 and 2, Labs 1 and 2
2 | Topics: Evolution, Populations, and Biodiversity | Reading: Chapter 3, Labs 3 and 4
3 | Topics: Community Ecology | Reading: Chapter 4, Labs 5 and 6
4 | Topics: Ecosystem Ecology | Reading: Chapter 5, Labs 7 and 8
5 | Topics: Human Population Reading: Chapters 8, Labs 9 and 10 | Midterm and Homework for Chapters 1-5 are Due
6 | Topics: Soil and Agriculture | Reading: Chapters 9, Labs 11 and 12
7 | Topics: Agriculture and Biotechnology | Reading: Chapters 10, Labs 13 and 14
8 | Topics: Biodiversity and Conservation Biology Reading: Chapters 11 | Final Exam and Homework for Chapters 8-11 are Due
9 | Term ends, grades turned in by 12:00 noon. (Monday) | Lab 15 and Lab Final

To prepare for a Unit Test, students are encouraged to attend the recitation sessions in which major concepts are covered. Also, for personal preparation for each test, students should:

1. **Read the chapters covered.**
2. Understand the study questions provided by the instructor. The questions follow the presentation of concepts in the book and can be studied as the book is read. The student should learn the concept tested by the question rather than memorizing the answer, because the study questions will be rewritten for the test.
3. Study the questions from both the web site and the back of each chapter (multiple choice and / or true/false and / or related).
4. There will be at least 50 multiple choice questions, inclusive of diagram labeling & memory work.
5. There will be a total of 4 lecture tests, 2 lab tests, 1 Micro-Lab Project, and 1 lecture final.
6. **There will be no make-up lab if missed.**
7. Make-up lecture tests will be available if an appropriate reason for missing is given.

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**EMERGENCY/INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE:**

In case of emergency or inclement weather conditions, Eastfield students should listen to KEOM-FM Radio (88.5FM) as the primary media source. In partnership with the Mesquite Independent School District, Eastfield College Administration will notify KEOM immediately after a decision is made to cancel classes on any given day of inclement weather or for emergency purposes. Students may also monitor other local radio and television stations. The earliest an announcement may be broadcast on KEOM Radio is 6 a.m. Students may also refer to the Eastfield college web page www.eastfieldcollege.com for the Inclement Weather announcement under the Features area of the front page. **The announcement will be posted immediately following the decision to close the college.**

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

**FINANCIAL AID STUDENTS:**

If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds. Failure to contact the instructor will result
in your name being submitted to the Financial Aid Office as a "non-attendee". All students receiving financial aid should open an E-mail account through NetMail. See directions in this syllabus for opening an E-mail account.

**Repeating This Course: (Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course)**
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at: [http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/](http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/)
ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.
As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. **Cheating** includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. **Plagiarism** is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. **Collusion** is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college.

**Food and Drink Policy**
Food, drinks, and tobacco products are prohibited in Eastfield College classrooms.

**ADA Statement**
Students with a physical, mental or learning disability who require accommodations should contact the college Disability Services Office in C237. Call 972.860.8348 or email efcdso@dcccd.edu. For more information: http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/SSI/DSO/index.html

**Religious Holidays**
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. Notification of the absence must be given to the instructor in writing at least two weeks prior to the date of the holy day. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to contract with the instructor to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a mutually agreed upon time after the absence.

**Withdrawal Policy**
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by April 16, 2020. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an “F.” If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped. For more information about drop deadlines, refer to the current printed Credit Class Schedule, contact the Admissions/Registrar’s Office at 972-860-7167 (Room C119), or contact the division office.
If you drop a class via eConnect, make sure to print a copy of the confirmation and keep the copy. In the event of a discrepancy it will be the responsibility of the student to provide documentation of having dropped the class.

**Classroom Etiquette**
Cell phones and/or other electronic communication devices are required to be placed in the silent mode or turned off during classroom lecture and classroom lab times. No outside discussions via cell phone and/or other electronic communication devices is to take place during the classroom lecture or classroom lab times.
STOP BEFORE YOU DROP
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access:

https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as “directory information” to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of student and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.

Children on Campus
The institution strives to protect an environment most conducive to teaching and learning for all enrolled students. Children who are taking part in organized scheduled activities or who are enrolled in specific classes are welcomed. Minor children, however, should not be brought to the institution unless closely supervised by their parent. Minor children should not be brought into classrooms, laboratories or other facilities of the college. This practice is disruptive to the learning process. In the case of an emergency where the student-parent has no alternative but to bring the child to campus, classroom faculty or the administrative heads of other units have full discretion as to whether a child may be allowed to quietly stay in the location. These individuals may require that children be removed by the student-parent from the setting if, in their opinion, the presence of the child is deemed to be disruptive to the learning process. For reasons of security and child welfare the institution will not permit unattended children to be left anywhere on the premises. Parents who have problems with childcare should visit the Counseling and/or Advisement Center to receive referrals to childcare services in the area.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct
We are committed to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX and DCCCD policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. If you encounter harassment, sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, relationship violence, stalking), retaliation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression, please
contact your College Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Institutional Equity. We treat this information with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student welfare and college safety.

We are concerned about the well-being and development of our students, and are available to discuss any concerns. There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. If students wish to keep the information confidential, please contact the college Counseling or Student Health Services. As required by DCCCD policy, incidents of discrimination and/or sexual misconduct shared with faculty will be reported to the College Title IX Coordinator or District Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will contact the student and determine if further investigation is needed. For more information about policies, resources or reporting options, please contact your college Title IX Coordinator or visit www.dcccd.edu/titleIX.

College Title IX Coordinators
Brookhaven Terri Edrich TitleIX-BHC@dcccd.edu 972-860-4825
Cedar Valley Grenna Rollings TitleIX-CVC@dcccd.edu 972-860-8181
Eastfield Rachel Wolf TitleIX-EFC@dcccd.edu 972-860-7358
El Centro Shanee’ Moore TitleIX-ECC@dcccd.edu 214-860-2138
Mountain View Regina Garner TitleIX-MVC@dcccd.edu 214-860-8561
North Lake Rosemary Meredith(acting) TitleIX-NLC@dcccd.edu 972-860-3992
Richland Bill Dial TitleIX-RLC@dcccd.edu 972-238-6386
Dallas Colleges Online Le’Kendra Higgs TitleIX-LEC@dcccd.edu 972-669-6672
District Title IX Coordinator
Office of Institutional Equity LaShawn Grant TitleIX-District@dcccd.edu 214-378-1633

EXTRA CREDIT
Duck Creek Field Trip: Date Unknown / TBA (TBD points)
(Glen Rose) OR Perot Museum (TBD points)

NOTE: TO RECEIVE EXTRA CREDIT POINTS ALL PROBLEMS / EXERCISES MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED AND TURNED IN AT THE SPECIFIC TIME(S) DESIGNATED.

EXTRA CREDIT WILL NOT BE GIVEN FOR EXERCISES / PROBLEMS THAT ARE INCOMPLETE! EXTRA CREDIT WILL NOT BE GIVEN FOR EXERCISES / PROBLEMS THAT ARE LATE!

EXTRA CREDIT POINTS LIMITED TO (95) TOTAL POINTS!

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.