

GEOLOGY 111 (A71) – THE EARTH – 3 HOURS

SUMMER SEMESTER

2021

Dr. Margaret E. Crowder

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course fosters the skills that lead to an understanding of natural aspects and environments of the Earth, scientific methods and basic geological principles. In particular, this course explores the interaction among geology, people and environment including Earth materials, internal and external physical, chemical and bio-geological processes that are responsible for forming and shaping the Earth, and Earth's evolution through deep times and present geologic time.

Everything that comprises our knowledge of energy/environment and the political, economic, societal concerns that surround them encompasses all of Geology spanning huge time frames starting 4.5 billion years ago to the unforeseeable future. This class can prepare you for a future career in the geological sciences (industry, teaching, research, and many others) and gives you the background information needed to make educated decisions regarding our planet.

General Education requirements: GEOL 111 is an introductory core course with co-requisite lab component for Geology Majors, Minors, and prospective science teachers, and students in allied sciences or other technical areas that fulfills Category D general education course goals and objectives. GEOL 111 satisfies Gen Ed Category D for all students returning to WKU after previously attending. **Colonnade Program requirements:** GEOL 111 also satisfies WKU's Colonnade Program's requirements for the Natural and Physical Sciences subcategory of the Explorations Category for those students attending WKU for the first time in Fall 2014 (including transfer students) who are under the F14 catalog requirements.

Colonnade Learning Objectives: This course fulfills Colonnade Program's four learning objectives which are as follows:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods of science inquiry.
2. Explain basic concepts and principles in one or more of the sciences.
3. Apply scientific principles to interpret and make predictions in one or more of the sciences.
4. Explain how scientific principles relate to issues of personal and/or public importance.

LEARNING and CONTENT OBJECTIVES

The learning and content objectives for GEOL 111 are designed to fully integrate fully with the Colonnade Program. Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. articulate an understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our health, well-being, and quality of life.
2. develop a capacity for critical and logical thinking.
3. understand and apply mathematical skills and concepts to science.
4. effectively express themselves in written and oral form on topics of geology and inter-related science sub-disciplines (chemistry/physics/biology).
5. demonstrate the ability to think critically about natural processes and their social and economic issues through either writing or discussion.
6. locate and use information on geology and the natural sciences on topics from a variety of sources, which could include peer-reviewed literature and popular public media electronic sources.
7. demonstrate ability to quantitatively and qualitatively describe the interactions of Earth Systems and their impact on weather, past- present- and future- climate, biodiversity, provenance, and landform formation.
8. demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge of data analysis and their significance in a coherent and meaningful manner.
9. critically evaluate data from a variety of sources and understand their limitations and inherent errors.

A detailed course outline is available via Blackboard. You need to post your assignments by specified deadlines, so you should always check the Course Outline at the beginning of each new week. Then you can plan when you will do your work. ALL work will be posted to Blackboard for assessment.

Possible Corequisite:

If lab credit is needed: Geology 113, Physical Geology Laboratory (1 credit hr.). *Those students enrolled in Geology 111 should also enroll in Geology 113 (will be offered Fall 2021) in order to receive full General Education/Colonnade credit in the appropriate category.*

Course Location and Meeting Time: Online, through Blackboard and the Mastering Geology platform. This is an asynchronous online class with no Zoom meetings.

Office, Office Hours:

Office: EST, Room 312, e-mail: Margaret.Crowder@wku.edu

Phone: 745-5973

Office Hours: Email for assistance and/or schedule a Zoom meeting.

Required Text: Tarbuck, Lutgens, Tasa. *Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology, 13th Edition*. Boston: Pearson. (This text may be purchased as a bound book, loose-leaf, or as an e-text; e-text is included with First Day Access – see below.)

Additional Requirement: Access to Mastering Geology website, included with First Day Access (instructions will be given via Blackboard on how to access this).

First Day Access: First Day Access:

This course participates in The WKU Store's First Day Access program. This program is designed to provide immediate access to required materials for all students at prices cheaper than any other option. Required materials will be delivered to you automatically by enrolling in this course unless you choose to opt-out. By participating in this program, The WKU Store will bill your Student Billing account, and you will see a charge appear under this Term along with Tuition and Fees ("Account Summary by Term" under the Student Services tab) labeled as "The WKU Store Purchases" after the Add/Drop period. For more information on this program or to opt-out of participation, go to the WKU Store page.

Special Instructional Materials: A computer with Internet access is required for specific aspects of this course. Use of iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android, and related devices are not acceptable, as there is much content that will not be accessible through the web browsers available on these platforms. Because it is essential that you have access to a computer and the internet, it is required that you identify at least one backup computer with internet access in case you have problems with your personal equipment (***any equipment problems will not be considered a valid excuse for missing assignments***). For example, the WKU student computer labs and most public libraries have computers with internet access.

Student Behavior and Communications:

Students are expected to assist in maintaining an online environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an equal opportunity of success in this course, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. All course communications are limited to the subject material of the course and all communications are monitored by the instructor. Inappropriate online behavior with the instructor or any student shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class. All incidents of inappropriate behavior will be reported to the Department Head and the Dean of Ogden College. Students should also report inappropriate online behavior to the instructor.

Academic Honesty:

Students are required to follow the WKU student code of conduct for academic honesty.

<http://www.wku.edu/judicialaffairs/student-code-of-conduct.php>

No plagiarism or cheating will be tolerated. Evidence of cheating and/or plagiarism may result in failure of the class and/or dismissal from the University. Each student is responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism. <http://www.wku.edu/csa/policies/plagiarism.php>

Privacy Policy and Internet Security:

The course will be conducted online primarily through Blackboard. Your WKU NET ID and password will give you access to Blackboard and provide a measure of privacy protection of the course content and your grades. Do not share your ID or password with anyone. If using a public computer (for example, at a hotel or library), you must log out and completely close the browser software when finished. This will prevent another person from accessing the course using your identification, doing mischief in your name, and violating the privacy of other students. You are expected to represent your identity in a truthful manner. Falsifying your identity is grounds for disciplinary action of all parties involved.

Email:

Email: I view my email twice a day (once in the morning and once in the afternoon). I will make every attempt to reply to your email within 48 hrs (This does not include weekends.). If you send me an email, it should contain the following:

Subject line: descriptor of nature of email; include course number
Salutation: Dr. Crowder,
Body of email: brief statement/description of your question/request
Closing: Sincerely/Regards/etc., (your name)

Assessment: Your understanding of course materials will be assessed on the basis of online work, as categorized below:

Percent of Grade	
Exams, multiple choice (5, including the final)	60%
Homework	40%
TOTAL	100%

Grades will be determined by the following guidelines:

A = 90% and above C = 70-79% F = 59% and below

B = 80-89% D = 60-69% FN = check with Registrar for full definition

Grades will not be 'curved'. NO individual extra credit will be assigned. No exceptions!

FYI: An "A" requires *extra effort* and to earn one is a great honor. Doing the bare minimum will not result in an "A." Students who earn "A's" are attentive, read the textbook, keep up with assignments, do not plagiarize or cheat, score the highest on exams, and put extra effort into their assignments. Do not underestimate the amount of time you will need to devote to studying for this class. ***Just because it is an online 100-level course, does not mean it is easy.***

Course Evaluation:

You will be evaluated through completion of numerous on-line activities this semester. Work will be directed through Blackboard. ALL work is to be submitted to Blackboard for evaluation. It is your responsibility to keep track of each assignment and due dates. For information on grading/credit for Mastering assignments, see the individual assignments in Mastering.

Make a habit of checking Blackboard for course announcements and information.

Make-up Policy: Exams will generally not be given after the day they are scheduled. Other assignments may receive partial credit if they are late, but some assignments may receive no late credit at all – see individual assignments for information. **Only under exceptional circumstances will there be any "make-up" opportunities for missed exams and assignments.**

Schedule Change Policy: The Department of Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences strictly adheres to University policies regarding schedule changes. It is the sole responsibility of individual students to meet all deadlines in regard to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Only in exceptional cases will a deadline be waved. The Student Schedule Exception form is used to initiate all waivers. This form requires a written description of the extenuating circumstances involved and the attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstances.

ADA Accommodation Statement:

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement:

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

The Learning Center (TLC) Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing Student Union, 2141) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. The Learning Center at Downing Student Union offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and a computer lab to complete academic coursework. Please call TLC in the Downing Student Union at (270) 745-5065 for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment. www.wku.edu/tlc

Writing Center Assistance: *The Writing Center on the Bowling Green campus* is offering **only** remote assistance to writers during the covid-19 pandemic. WKU students may request feedback on their writing via email or arrange a real-time Zoom conference to discuss a paper. See instructions and how-to videos on the website (www.wku.edu/writingcenter) for making online synchronous (Zoom) or asynchronous (email) appointments. Students may also get short writing questions answered via email; just put "Quick question" in the subject line to (writingcenter@wku.edu).

The WKU Glasgow START Center/Writing Center will be offering writing tutoring sessions in synchronous online format as well as in person, by appointment only. More information on how to make appointments and what to expect from your appointment will continue to be posted at <https://www.wku.edu/startcenter/>.

The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary A. Ransdell Hall 2066. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies to help with **reading/studying to learn** and **writing for evidence and argument**. The Center for Literacy offers both individual and small group sessions throughout the semester. Please email us at literacy.center@wku.edu to schedule an appointment or ask questions, visit our website at <http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/>, or stop by GRH 2066 for more information.

Strategies for Student Success: Effective study takes time. Success at the college level probably will require more time, and more careful use of time, than many students expect. An oft-quoted rule of thumb is that ***students should spend two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class***. Do you? If you have questions about how to take better notes, or learn more effectively, here's an excellent website for suggestions on how to achieve academic success: <http://slc.berkeley.edu/study-and-success-strategies>

General Comments: In order to do well in this course, you must spend a great deal of time - every week - completing assignments and working with the available course materials. Get in the habit of regularly spending time on all aspects of the course - it is very easy to get behind, especially in a summer course and it is very difficult, if impossible to catch up. Spending the time you need on the materials each day will pay off in the end both in terms of your grade and your comprehension of course materials.

***NOTE: This syllabus functions rather like a contract. By remaining enrolled in this class, it is understood that it is your responsibility to read, understand, and adhere to the policies herein. The instructor will inform you as to any policy or scheduling changes and it is your responsibility to make these adjustments.**

**HAVE A GOOD
SEMESTER!!**

*syllabus is subject to revisions by instructor – the entire class will be notified via Blackboard of any alterations to this syllabus

(See general course outline below.)

Geology 111 – General Course Outline* Summer 2021

Week	Day	Reading (Text and Powerpoints; Videos and Readings)	Homework Due	Exam Due (Timed, only one attempt allowed)
1	Monday	Ch. 1-3		
	Wednesday	Ch. 1-3	Intro Mastering, Ch. 1	
	Friday	Ch. 1-3	Ch. 2, Ch. 3	Exam 1
2	Monday	Ch. 4-7	Ch. 4, Ch. 5	
	Wednesday	Ch. 4-7	Ch. 6, Ch. 7	Exam 2
	Friday	Ch. 8-11	Ch. 8, Ch. 9	
3	Monday	Ch. 8-11	Ch. 10, Ch. 11	Exam 3
	Wednesday	Ch. 15-18	Ch. 15, Ch. 16	
	Friday	Ch. 15-18	Ch. 17, Ch. 18	Exam 4
4	Monday	Ch. 19-21, 23	Ch. 19, Ch. 20	
	Wednesday	Ch. 19-21, 23	Ch. 21 & 23	
	Friday			Exam 5

*subject to revisions by instructor