

GRAYSON COLLEGE

Course Syllabus

Course Information

GEOL1301/1101 Earth Science Lecture & Lab

Professor Contact Information

Instructor: Dusty Girard

Instructor's Phone Number: 903-415-2595

Instructor's email: Canvas Mail or girardd@grayson.edu

Instructor's Office: S121

Science Department Office Phone: 903-463-8797

Office Hours: By appointment.

Feel free to email me at any time with any questions or concerns. I check my email daily and will respond as soon as possible. If you send an email on Friday afternoon you may not receive a response until Monday. Do not wait until something is due to let me know you are having problems, as this may result in a loss in grades. If you are having technical difficulties, you may want to make note of an outside email in case you are unable to contact me through Canvas mail system, girardd@grayson.edu. Please specify your NAME, COURSE and school in the email.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

GEOL1101 required – Both sections are combined in Canvas.

Course Description – from college catalog

GEOL 1301 Earth Science (3-0-3). Survey of physical and historical geology, astronomy, meteorology, oceanography and related sciences. College readiness in reading required. (R)

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate knowledge of geologic hazards associated with geologic activity.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of weathering and erosional processes that change the surface of the Earth.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the utilization of Earth's resources such as water, minerals, and fossil fuels.

Course Materials:

Required Textbooks (ISBN # included) and Materials

Foundations of Earth Science, Lutgens and Tarbuck, (7th Edition) ISBN: 0321811798. (8th edition is also acceptable). Outside readings and/or materials may be provided as topics arise. The book access code is suggested but NOT required. The textbook may be purchased through the campus bookstore or found at numerous outside stores such as amazon.com, half.com, etc. but it is the student's responsibility to have the book available for class and the instructor is not responsible for delivery of outside sources.

Lab Manual: Investigating Earth Science, 2nd edition. ISBN: 978-1-5249-9185-2
Available in Bookstore or from publisher at
<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/investigating-earth-science>.

Outline of Topics Covered

Chapter 1 Matter and Minerals

Chapter 2 Rocks: Igneous, Sedimentary & Metamorphic

Lecture Exam I: Chapters 1 & 2

Chapter 3 Landscapes Fashioned by Water, Water Resources

Chapter 4 Glacial and Arid Landscapes

Lecture Exam II: Chapters 3 & 4

Chapter 5 Plate Tectonics

Chapter 6 Earthquakes, Earth's Structure and Mountain Building

Chapter 7 Volcanoes, Igneous Activity and Plutons

Lecture Exam III: Chapters 5, 6 & 7

Chapter 8 Geologic Time

Chapter 9 Oceans: The Last Frontier

Chapter 10 The Restless Ocean

Lecture Exam IV: Chapters 8, 9 & 10

Chapter 11 Heating the Atmosphere

Chapter 12 Moisture, Clouds and Precipitation

Chapter 13 The Atmosphere in Motion

Chapter 14 Weather Patterns and Severe Weather

Lecture Exam V: Chapters 11, 12, 13 & 14

Chapter 15 The Nature of the Solar System

Chapter 16 Beyond Our Solar System

Lecture Exam VI: Chapters 15 & 16 (No comprehensive final)

Discussion Posts (all due by 11pm on specified date):

Discussion 1 – Discussion 1 Reply

Discussion 2

Discussion 3

Extra Credit I

Discussion 4

Discussion 5

Discussion 6

Extra Credit II

* All Exams, Labs and Assignments must be submitted by 11pm on the due date.

Lab Topics to be Covered

All due by 11pm on date specified.

Lab 1	The Metric System, Scientific Method	
Lab 2	Minerals & Igneous Rocks	
Lab 3	Sedimentary & Metamorphic Rocks	
Lab 4	Water Usage & Conservation	
Lab 5	Earthquakes	
Lab 6	Coordinate Systems, Maps & Time Zones	
	Lab Exam I (Covers Labs 1-6)	
Lab 7	Geologic Time	
Lab 8	Insolation, Seasons & Climates	
Lab 9	Atmospheric Conditions	
Lab 10	Clouds, Fronts and Weather Maps	
Lab 11	Moons & Other Celestial Bodies	
Lab 12	The Solar System	
	Lab Exam II (Covers Labs 7-12)	

IMPORTANT DATES :

*Note you must successfully complete Assignment 1 on or before the Census Date to be counted as attending on the official roll. By completing Assignment 1 you are acknowledging that you have read the entire syllabus.

First Class Day

Certification Date

Final Drop/Withdrawal Deadline

Final Exams

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION : You will need to have a working computer and be able to complete and submit all work on or before the due dates. It is the student's responsibility to submit items by the due date and have access to a computer with the internet. There are several options both public and private. Therefore, internet connection problems are not an excuse to miss a due date. No late work will be accepted. All due dates are posted at the beginning of the course and any items not submitted by the due date will receive a grade of zero unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. You will need to complete the related internet assignments and return them for a grade.

EVALUATION METHODS:

Six major examinations will be given at scheduled times throughout the semester, one for each Unit. Dates of the examinations will be announced on the calendar. There will be no make-ups taken after the time allotted for the exam has expired unless prior arrangements are made and at the discretion of the instructor. Students not taking an exam will receive a "0". Exams may only be taken ONCE unless there are technical problems. Exams may be taken early, but must be completed by the due date. Exams may consist of multiple choice, matching, short answer, fill-in-the-blank, and true/false questions.

Quizzes will be given for each unit in lecture and may be taken up to 3 times with the highest submission counting as the grade for that unit. Quizzes should be used to help prepare for exams. Assignments will consist of Discussion Board postings and weekly labs assessments. For full credit on Discussion Postings, all instructions should be followed and posts should meet the length requirement and contain proper grammar and spelling.

Exams and quizzes will be timed – going over the time limit will result in a penalty: 2 points for the first 5 minutes over and 1 point for each minute after time has expired.

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will be calculated in the following manner:

Lecture:

Discussions (6 @ 25 each)	150 pts
Quizzes (6 @ 25 each)	150 pts
<u>Exams (6 @ 100 each)</u>	<u>600 pts</u>
Total Points	900 pts

Lab:

Labs 1-6 (6 labs @ 25 each)	150 pts
Lab Exam I (covers Labs 1-6)	150 pts
Labs 7-12 (6 labs @ 25 each)	150 pts
<u>Lab Exam II (covers labs 7-12)</u>	<u>150 pts</u>
Total Points	600 pts

Lecture points + Lab points = 1500 total points

To calculate your grade take your points divided by the total points possible then multiply by 100:

Your Points/1500*100.

In the event that the total number of points on a test does not equal 100, the grade will be normalized to 100. For example, a score of 62 out of 80 would be a 77.5 ((62/80)*100).

All Exams will be completed online and do not require a testing center. Quizzes will count for a grade and should be used to prepare for exams. Exams and quizzes will be timed and going over the time limit will result in a penalty. Only ONE attempt is allowed per exam.

By posting your Discussion I, you are acknowledging that you have read the entire syllabus. This posting is worth twenty-five points.

Letter Grades

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

90.0-100 = A

80.0-89.99 = B

70.0-79.99 = C

60.0-69.99 = D

Below 60.0 = F

Grades will be NOT be rounded up or down. For example, an 89.9 will be an 89.

Grades are available through Canvas and the Grayson Student Academics Portal.

I want to remind everyone, no professor “gives” a student a grade. The student earns the grade they receive.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers from other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the college’s policy on plagiarism (see GC Student Handbook for details). Grayson College subscribes to Turnitin.com, which allows faculty to search the web and identify plagiarized material. If it is determined a student has violated academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism), the result will be a zero for the first incident and a failing grade for the course for subsequent infractions.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular attendance of classes is essential for optimum achievement, if this case is a hybrid class this means the student must check in regularly for new assignments and news posted on the message board as well as attend scheduled classroom meetings. Therefore, regular attendance is required in this course both in class and online. (See college policy, GCC catalog <http://www.grayson.edu/programs-classes/catalog.aspx>). For internet classes, corresponding with the instructor and completing course work on or before the due dates constitutes attendance. A student is responsible for all work missed for whatever reason.

Students will communicate with the Instructor and Classmates through Canvas by utilizing Canvas mail, discussion boards and chat options.

Online participation will be monitored by the student completing assignments by the specified due dates posted.

Students will maintain proper 'Netiquette' and outside sources of how to communicate effectively online may be found in the course Orientation.

There are several public options for students to access in the event of technical issues such as libraries, schools, internet cafes, etc. It is the student's responsibility to have a working computer with the required software to submit work on time, the instructor is not responsible for any internet connection or computer related problems.

Information on technological requirements may be found in the Modules under Technology Resources. Students should contact the student services department for further help or information on technology assistance.

In the event of technical problems or problems logging into Canvas, students should feel free to email the instructor at any time with any questions or concerns at an outside email (girardd@grayson.edu). I check my email daily and will respond as soon as possible. If you send an email on Friday afternoon you may not receive a response until Monday. Do not wait until something is due to let me know you are having problems, as this may result in a loss in grades.

Please specify your name, school and course in the email.

There are no required on-campus class sessions or exams for internet courses.

If you do not complete Discussion I by the due date, you will be listed as a no show to the registrar's office. Logging in to the class does not constitute attendance!

Student Conduct & Discipline

Students must plan to set aside as many hours during a week they would for an on campus course as they do an online or hybrid course. Procrastination is the quickest path to failure in an on line course.

General Course Information

To be successful taking an online course, it is imperative to keep up with the work. Procrastination is the quickest path to failure in this course. There are time constraints on all of the assignments partially as a reminder of the pace you must maintain to complete the course. If you are not very disciplined about setting aside the proper amount of time to study and prepare for this course you should probably not take an on-line or hybrid class! The Exams for this course are not easy. Waiting until the last minute then trying to cram for the Exams will not garner you success in this course.

Computers and the Internet

It is strongly recommended that you have a computer running an up to date operating system and software. If you are trying to complete this course using a machine running Windows 2000, MacOS 9.x or earlier, you will probably have difficulty displaying and/or downloading the course content. Windows XP or later, MacOS 10.x or later or a Linux distribution based on the 2.6x or later kernel should be considered a minimum for the course. It is also recommended that you use the latest version of your preferred browser. Mozilla/Firefox is a recommended browser for Canvas users.

I recommend that you have your screen resolution set to a minimum of 1280x1024. This will reduce the amount of scrolling you need to do when viewing the course module handouts and presentations.

While I make every attempt to prevent any virus infected files from being posted with the course material, you should be certain that your anti-virus software is update to date with the latest virus definitions installed.

You will need a copy of a PDF Reader for many documents posted with the course. The Adobe Reader is available for free from www.adobe.com or the Foxit Reader is available from www.foxitsoftware.com. After you download the software, you will need to run the program to install it on your computer.

I cannot be responsible for problems with: your computer, your Internet Service Provider (ISP), the Internet, the Grayson County College website or Canvas!

If you are having problems with Canvas, contact [the Help Desk at \(903\)463-8788](tel:9034638788), [\(903\)647-0092](tel:9036470092) or distance@grayson.edu.

It is not my responsibility to fix your computer or extend an assignment deadline because your computer isn't working properly or you have a problem with your ISP!

While I make every effort to keep the size of presentations and documents small, you will have a more enjoyable experience taking the course if you have a high speed Internet connection. I understand that in many areas, dial up is the only option, therefore it may be a good idea to visit a library or the campus to download some content for the course.

Communication Methods

Canvas includes several components for communication with the class. Discussion group messages are public and can be read by anyone in the class. Before posting a Discussion message you should carefully think about what you are going to say and how to say it. Because of the lack of verbal clues in written communication, it is often easy to have your comments misinterpreted. Use clues to indicate you feelings in your written communication such as ;-) (joking), :-) (surprise), :-((frown) etc.

Mail messages are confined to the course (they are not email like you use on the Internet) and are private unless you set your preferences to receive them at an outside email. Mail messages can only be read by the individual you send the message to. As with Discussion message, be cautious how you phrase your message so that the recipient doesn't misunderstand you meaning.

DO NOT post Discussion group messages with questions of a personal nature (your class status, grades, etc.). Questions concerning your class status, grades or concerns about your performance in the course should be sent as Mail messages. **Any Discussion group message deemed inappropriate for that forum will be deleted!**

The Chat tool can be used for instant communication with your classmates or myself. When using the Chat tool keep your comments brief and to the point.

When using these communication tools, please follow proper etiquette. Punctuation and correct capitalization will make your messages easier to read and understand. Do not type everything in all caps, doing so makes the reader feel as if you are shouting at them. If you read something that upsets you, stop and think carefully about your response before sending anything. Remember, that is another human being that will be reading your message and they too have feelings. In the event you are receiving mail messages which you find distasteful, please contact me so I can address the individual that is sending the messages.

Any Mail or Discussion group message that violates any of the following is unacceptable.

- contains crude, vulgar or profane language
- contains derogatory language aimed at any group of people
- any message that is not course related

If you receive any mail message from another student that violates this policy, please forward the inappropriate message to the professor immediately so proper action can be taken.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another

person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the college's policy on plagiarism (see GC Student Handbook for details). Grayson College subscribes to [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com), which allows faculty to search the web and identify plagiarized material. Any assignment deemed as plagiarized will receive a zero and possible further action with student services. This includes 'self-plagiarism'. Students are prohibited, too, from engaging in self-plagiarism. Self-plagiarism is the act of using work created for another course and submitting that work for credit in this course. This includes work submitted previously for one of this instructor's courses. There are limited circumstances under which the instructor will permit self-plagiarism, and special permission must be received in order to do so. Those who engage in acts of self-plagiarism (without the necessary permission) will be subject to the penalties listed in this syllabus for all other acts of plagiarism.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal from any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's schedule of classes. Administrative procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle student initiated withdrawal requirements from any class. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled (see GCC College Catalog for details).

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room SC 115 in the Student Success Center.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

Jeffri Hodge

(903) 463-8751 (voice or TTY)

hodgej@grayson.edu

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Financial Aid

Effective July 1, 2000 students receiving Title IV funds (Pell, Federal Grants, and Student Loans), who subsequently withdraw from classes, will be required to return a portion of the federal financial aid received. Only the percentage of aid earned (determined by the percentage of time attended) will be eligible for retention on the student's behalf. Any aid that is not earned must be returned to its source. If there is a student account balance resulting from these adjustments, the student is responsible for payment. Further details can be obtained from the Office of Financial Aid.

Drop Rule

Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, "an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education." This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 and applies to students who enroll in a public institution of higher education as first-time freshmen in fall 2007 or later. Any course that a student drops is counted toward the six-course limit if (1) the student drops a course after census date or (2) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution. Some exemptions for good cause could allow a student to drop a course without having it counted toward this limit, but it is the responsibility of the student to establish that good cause before the drop. Students with questions should contact the Counseling Office or the Office of Admissions & Records for more information before dropping a course!

TITLE IX

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status. Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation. For more information on Title IX, please contact:

Dr. Molly Harris, Title IX Coordinator (903-463-8714)

Ms. Logan Maxwell, Title IX Deputy Coordinator- South Campus (903) 415-2646

Mr. Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator (903) 463-8753

Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>

GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777- Main Campus) (903) 415-2501 - South Campus)

GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8730

For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found on our Current Student Page on our website: <http://grayson.edu/current-students/index.html>

Grayson County College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.

Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found under the 'Current Student Page' on the college website.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

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GCC Earth Science Rock Kit

The rock kit for this class must be checked out from the campus library. They are recommended, but not required for completion of the course.