Course Syllabus

GEOS1303.0W1 (Online)
Department of Geosciences School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
The University of Texas at Dallas

Course Information

Course Number/Section	GEOS1303.0W1 (Online))
Term and Dates	Fall 2022 August 22nd – Dec. 8th
Profesor	Dr. Ignacio Pujana
TA	TBA
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Office Location	ROC 2.301B
Online and Office Hours	by appointment.
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Course Modality and Expectations

Instructional Mode	Asynchronous online
Course Platform	All supporting material, all tests and assignments, and all communication will be provided online through eLearning at https://elearning.utdallas.edu link to Connect **ASSESSMENTS:** Tests, and Smart Book modules. You can access Assessments by clicking the proper icon on the designated Folder All the assessment activities will be conducted online on your own computer. **SmartBook (SB):** an adaptive learning system designed to help students learn faster, study more efficiently, and retain more knowledge for greater success. These assessments must be passed with 90**%** to open each one of the 10-unit tests; most of the unit Tests have two Learn Smart modules. These assignments will be open the first day of class and remain open until the end of the semester. Please be aware the deadline of the test will be enforced strictly, in consequence is wise to have your SmartBook modules done well in advance of the test deadline. All SB assignments will contribute 12% to your final score.
Expectations	Students are required to log in regularly every week to the online class site; there is a new unit with fresh assessments every week - Wednesday at 11:00 AM. The Schedule included on this syllabus will be strictly follow unless further notification on the main page of this class.
Asynchronous Learning Guidelines	This class is offered only as asychronous instruction including intruction material, assignments and exams.

COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's COVID-19 resources for students and instructors of record.

Please see http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your

participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to university requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

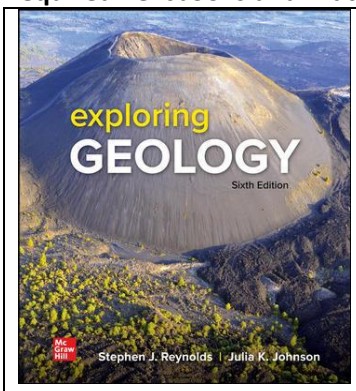
Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions
None

Course Description
The course presents an overview of the processes, both internal and external, that shape the surface of the earth. Specific topics addressed are the rock-forming minerals; magmatic and volcanic processes; weathering and sedimentary materials; erosion, transport and deposition by water, wind and ice; coastlines; folding and faulting; earthquakes and the earth's interior; the sea floor the unifying theory of plate tectonics; mountain belts, metamorphism, and the evolution of the continental crust; geological time and environmental geology. This is a science course offered in an online format. A flexible approach based on programmed self-instruction, with frequent tests to monitor progress, replaces for the usual lecture with infrequent testing mode used in most courses.
The course is divided into 10 sections (called Units), each of which corresponds two chapters in the textbook. An Orientation Homework must be passed with a 100 % (can be repeated all times needed) to go on to Test Unit 1.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Define selected vocabulary from the assigned chapters and employ them in understanding and explaining topics.
- Discuss the basic principles of scientific inquiry and apply them to current research and to past discoveries of theories.
- Differentiate between the three types of plate boundaries by noting common geologic features and processes. Summarize how these boundaries form.
- Differentiate the internal structure and composition of the Earth Classify common physical properties and differentiate minerals and rocks.
- Summarize the relationship between the chemical and physical properties of minerals.
- Analyze igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks to determine how they formed.
- Compare how different types of magma form and explain their relationship to the formation of intrusive and volcanic igneous features.
- Compare and contrast weathering among different rock types and different environments.
- Identify strata, faults, and folds in geologic sections and summarize the forces and tectonic settings that lead to their formation.
- Apply the principles of relative dating to interpret the geologic history of a cross-section. Understand the application of radiometric dating to the geologic time scale.
- Explain what causes earthquakes and earthquake destruction and apply the correct procedures to locate the source and calculate the magnitude of an earthquake.
- Compare and contrast depositional and erosional environments, features, and processes associated with streams and shorelines.
- Discuss energy and mineral resources, including origin, uses, and environmental consequences.

Required Textbooks and Materials



Exploring Geology, Stephen Reynolds, 6th Edition, McGraw-Hill Education Connect® access
Follow the link inside eLearning it will take you into the registration (only needs to be done once)
Very Important: Register with your UTD EMAIL account and YOUR official name on records otherwise you will be unregistered.
The publisher offers a free trial for about two weeks or so.
Please familiarize yourself with the functionality and features of eLearning and connect as soon as possible (see further information below).
Alternatives for those students who want a printed textbook (not required), may be explored on the same publisher site

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Course Policies

Sequence of events

All supporting material, all exams and assignments, and all **communication** will be provided through eLearning at https://elearning.utdallas.edu/

Please familiarize yourself with the functionality and features of eLearning as soon as possible (see further information below).

ASSESSMENTS: Tests, and SmartBook modules

All the assessment activities will be conducted online on your own computer.

SmartBook: an adaptive learning system designed to help students learn faster, study more efficiently, and retain more knowledge for greater success. These assessments must be passed with a minimum of **90%** to open each one of the 10-unit tests; most of the unit Tests have two SmartBook modules. These BS assignments will be open the first day of class and remain open until the end of the semester. Please be aware the deadline of the test will be enforced strictly, in consequence is wise to have your SmartBook modules done well in advance of the test deadline. All BS assignments will contribute 12% to your final score.

Tests: A test includes material contained on one or two chapters. A prerequisite is to earn 90% on the assigned SmartBook Unit module/s. Every week a new test will be added and the oldest one is closed.
All Unit Tests contribute 90% of the final score, start at 11:00 AM Wednesdays and close two weeks later also a Wednesday, 11:00 AM. This is a way to allow you to plan your testing time better but be careful don't wait until the deadline. Please read the onscreen instructions carefully, once it starts you will have 35 minutes to complete a test (no saving and returning to it is allowed). **Tests are based on the textbook; however right answers may require elaboration of the information no just mere repetition.** Each Test is timed 35 minutes and can be attempted two times (if the student wish to do so), highest grades will be recorded) within the scheduled time window.

Make up:

Two Recovery tests will be offered, to replace **one missed test** each, these are comprehensive tests**.** The first **Recovery 1** will include units 1 to 5, and **Recovery 2** includes questions from Units 6 to 10. This opportunity will be offered at the end of the semester.

Class Participation

Students are required to log in regularly; there is a new test every week. The Schedule included on this syllabus will be strictly followed, in case is necessary to change it, a notification will be posted on the main page.

Student Assessments

Grading Information Weights

SmartBook activities from 18 chapters. Prerequisite to open test units	12%
Unit tests 1, 2 ,3 ,4, 5, 6 ,7 ,8 ,9 and 10 (9 % each)	90%
Total	102%

Grading Scale

Based on 10 Test grades, and the BS modules.

Scaled Score (%)	Letter Equivalent
97.1 -100	A+
93.1-97	A
90.1-93	A-
87.1-90	B+
83.1-87	B
80.1-83	B-
77.1-80	C+
73.1-77	C
70.1-73	C-
60.1-70	D
Less than 60	F

Grades will be posted to your grade book automatically via eLearning. Your first score will be the score shown in the GRADE BOOK. You may take the test a maximum of two times (grade is the highest achieved score).

Academic Calendar

WEEK	Unit/ Chapter number and Topic	ASSESMENTS / OPENINGS & DEADLINES
1-2/16	Orientation HWK Introduction: Syllabus Read it!!	Read Syllabus; check all necessary plug-ins in your computer. Register on Connect see how on the class eLearning site. Complete the **Orientation homework** must achieve 100 % to open test 1. Orientation will be open the first day of Spring Semester August 22nd at 11:00 AM; this grade, however, will not be counted towards the final grade. The way to proceed is first complete the Orientation Homework, then you'll be ready to test Unit 1.
3/16	Unit 1: Chapter 1: The Nature of Geology	Read Chapter 1 on the textbook. Start the SmartBook (BS) Module Chapter 1 to assess yourself and read again missed concepts on the textbook. Earning 90-100 % on these modules is a way to be well prepared to do the corresponding Test Unit. **SmartBook Module/s** will be always open. **Unit 1 Test** is available: Wednesday Aug. 31st at 11:00 AM until Wednesday September 14th 11:00 AM. This grade is what will start counting towards your final grade. Unit test will have a maximum of two attempts, 20 questions on 35 minutes. Highest grade is what counts.
4/16	Unit 2: Chapter 2 &3: Investigating Geologic Questions, and Plate Tectonics	Read Chapter 2 and 3 on textbook. Must pass (100 %) on the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. No limit to the number of tries and the highest score is what counts. **Unit 2 Test** will be available Wednesday September 7th 11:00 AM, to Wednesday September 21st, 11:00 AM.
5/16	Unit 3: Chapter 4; Earth Materials.	Read Chapter 4 on textbook. Must pass (100 %) the SmartBook Module to be allowed test on UNIT 3 **Unit 3 Test** will be available Wednesday September 14th, 11:00 AM to Wednesday September 28th, 11:00 AM.
6/16	Unit 4 Chapters 5 & 6 Igneous Environments & Volcanoes and Volcanic Hazards	Read Chapters 5 and 6. Must pass (90-100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. No limit to the number of tries and the highest score is what counts. **Unit 4 Test** will be available Wednesday September 21st, 11:00 AM. to Wednesday October 5th, 11:00 AM.
7-8/16	Unit 5: Chapters 7 &9 Sedimentary Environments and Geologic Time	Read Chapters 7 and 9 on textbook. Must pass (100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. No limit to the number of tries and the highest score is what counts. **Unit 5 Test** will be available Wednesday September 28th, 11:00 AM. to Wednesday October 12th, 11:00 AM.
9/16	Unit 6: Chapters10 & 11 Basins and Continents and Seafloor and Continental Margins	Read Chapters 10 &11 on textbook. Must pass (100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. **Unit 6 Test** will be available Wednesday October 5th, 11:00 AM to Wednesday October 19th, 11:00 AM
12/16	Unit 7: Chapters 8 & 12: Deformation and Metamorphism & Earthquakes /Earth Interior	Read Chapters 8 & 12 on textbook. Must pass (100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. **Unit 7 Test** will be available Wednesday October 12th, 11:00 AM to Wednesday October 26th, 11:00 AM.

13/16	Unit 8 Chapter 13 & 14: Climate, Weather and Influences in Geology & Glaciers, Shorelines, and Changing Sea Levels	Read Chapter 13 and 14. Must pass (90-100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. **Unit 8 Test** will be available Wednesday October 19th, 11:00 AM to Wednesday November 2nd , 11:00 AM.
14/16	Unit 9 Chapters 16 & 17: Streams and Flooding & Water Resources	Read Chapters 16 and 17 on textbook. Must pass (90-100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. **Unit 9 Test** will be available Wednesday October.26th, 11:00 AM to Wednesday November 9th, 11:00 AM.
15/16	Unit 10 Chapters 18 & 19: Energy and Mineral Resources & Geology of the Solar System	Read Chapters 18 and 19 on textbook. Must pass (90-100 %) the SmartBook Modules to assess yourself and access the Unit Test. **Unit 10 Test** will be available Wednesday November 2nd , 11:00 AM to Wednesday November 16th, 11:00 AM.
16/16	**Recovery Period November 16th to Wednesday November 30th 11:00 AM.** • Recovery 1 Test offered as one-time opportunity, to **replace one missed test of the first part of the semester (will not count to improve low grades).** Recovery 1 is comprehensive and will include units 1 to 5. • Recovery 2 Test offered as one-time opportunity, to **replace one missed test of the second part of the semester (will not count to improve low grades). Recovery 2** is comprehensive and will include units 6 to 10.	

Class Participation
Students are required to log in regularly every week to the online class site; there is a new unit with fresh assessments every week -Wednesday at 11:00 AM. The Schedule included on this syllabus will be strictly followed unless further notification or announcement is posted on the main page (Elearning) of this class. **Always make sure to check the class announcement for new updates and changes**.

Technical Requirements
In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage**.**

Course Access and Navigation
This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the eLearning website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the Getting Started with eLearning webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning TutoriaBS webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication
This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication Tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 48 working hours under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources
Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties
The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.