

**GEL111 Syllabus - Fall Semester 2016**  
**Introductory Geology**

Credits: 4 (lecture & lab) Perquisite: ENG095 or DRE098  
Section: I02  
Location: Lecture/Lab Assignments: [online.cfcc.edu](http://online.cfcc.edu)

Instructor: Jim Criswell  
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Office Hour: 8:00 AM to 8:50 AM Tuesday  
Text: Lecture "Essentials of Geology," 12<sup>th</sup> ed., by Lutgens  
Lab "Laboratory Manual in Physical Geology," 10<sup>th</sup> ed., by Busch & Tasa

**General Education Competency - Scientific Reasoning and Critical Thinking**

**Scientific Reasoning:**

Students engage in scientific reasoning when they use fundamental scientific concepts and theories to analyze problems, observations, and/or experiments in the life and physical sciences. Students demonstrate scientific reasoning when they:

- Apply appropriate scientific concepts, theories, and language to problems, observations, or experiments
- Utilize scientific data to analyze problems, observations, or experiments
- Apply scientific observations, calculations, and/or measurements to problems or experiments
- Articulate conclusions about problems, observations, or experiments using appropriate scientific concepts and data

**Critical Thinking:**

Critical thinking is the deliberate process of questioning, evaluating, and responding to problems, scenarios, and arguments in order to reach sound solutions, decisions, and positions. Students demonstrate critical thinking when they:

- Ask pertinent questions that clarify and focus a problem, scenario, or argument
- Evaluate the quantity, quality, and usefulness of information
- Articulate a sound solution, decision, or position based on appropriate standards of reasoning
- Monitor and reflect upon the quality and fairness of their reasoning

**Student Accounts:**

Your myCFCC account is a single username and password for all of your CFCC network accounts: email, WebAdvisor, Blackboard, campus computer access, and more. The email account provided to you ([yourusername@cfcc.edu](mailto:yourusername@cfcc.edu)) is used for all official communication with CFCC instructors and staff. Some information will ONLY be sent by email and not by postal mail, so it is very important that you check this account. This account may also be used for personal mail, but is subject to the CFCC Acceptable Use Policy. Be sure to log out of your account in each service you may have opened (email, Blackboard, etc) when you leave a shared computer, otherwise it is possible for the next user of the computer to access your information.

**Contingency Plan:**

If the college is closed for inclement weather, please look at the announcements for updates regarding make up for assignments. If technology issues are experienced that prohibit the submittal/completion of assignments, please let me know as soon as technical communication is restored for appropriate method for resubmitting assignments.

If an instructor has not arrived for the class, wait fifteen minutes. Then, everyone in the class should sign a roll sheet and designate someone to take it to the Department Chair or Secretary. Every student has an official CFCC-provided email account which is to be used for all email

**ACCOMMODATION OF SPECIAL NEEDS BASED ON DISABILITY:**

Any student who requests classroom accommodations because of a disability must present documentation to verify his/her disability. This documentation must be furnished to the Disabilities Service Coordinator and this should be provided prior to requesting accommodation by the instructor. On a confidential basis, the student, disabilities services and the instructor will determine the appropriate accommodations following documentation. Accommodations will be provided in a manner that is consistent with the objectives, outcomes, and academic standards of the course. Absences must not exceed class attendance policy.

**Course Description:**

This course introduces basic landforms and geological processes. Topics include rocks, minerals, volcanoes, fluvial processes, geological history, plate tectonics, glaciers, and coastal dynamics. Upon completion, students should be able to describe basic geological processes that shape the earth. This is a Universal General Education Transfer Component (UGETC) course.

**Netiquette:**

Rarely will you be asked to participate in class discussions. On those that you do, please adhere to the netiquette guidelines posted under the "Getting Started" button in Blackboard.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance for this course is based on the chapter review questions submitted through email, weekly quizzes, and the weekly lab exercise. If you miss more than either (8) assignments - including chapter review questions, quizzes, or lab exercises - you will receive an "F" for the course.

**Posting of Assignments:**

Excluding the weeks of the midterm and final exams, weekly assignments will be posted as follows:

Chapter Review Questions

- Opened Friday
- Due Monday

Lab Exercises

- Opened Monday
- Due Wednesday

Quizzes

- Opened Wednesday
- Due Friday

**Instructor Response Time:**

Regarding weekly assignments, every attempt will be made to grade and return assignments with comments within 24 - 48 hours after their due date. I will also make every effort to return emails with 24 - 48 hours after receiving them (48 hours if emailed on a weekend).

**Quizzes/Exams:**

Except for the week of the midterm and final exams, there will be a timed online quiz every week in the class. You may use any course items and material that you have available for the exams. However, you may not consult with other classmates or seek outside assistance. Each quiz will consist of between 16 to 26 questions, and will be timed from anywhere between 35 to 45 minutes.

**Point Total:** The Following is a breakdown of the points for the course:

Item	Points	Total Points
Lab Exercises (14)	10	140

Chapter Review (14)	10	140
Weekly quizzes (14)	26	364
Mid-Term Exam (1)	150	150
Final Exam (1)	200	200
<i>Bonus</i>	6	6
Course Total		1000

**Grading Scale:**

A = 92 - 100 (920 points)

B = 84 - 91 (840 points)

C = 76 - 83 (760 points)

D = 68 - 75 (680 points)

F = 0 - 67

**Disclaimer:** Information contained in this syllabus was, to the best knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use at the beginning of the semester. The instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of Cape Fear Community College, to make changes in course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation.