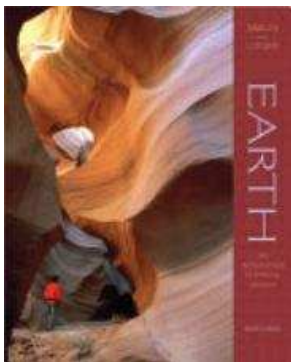
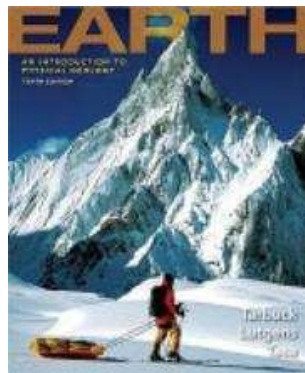


Geol 100 - General Geology (Online) Course # 1058**3 Lecture Hours Equivalent, 3 Units; Letter Grade, Student may petition for Credit/No Credit****Online Period:** June 20 through July 29**Instructor:** Ray Rector**Contact:** phone# 760-942-9201; e-mail: geoprof@terrasonics.com**Instructor's Web site:** <http://www.terrasonics.com/>**Required Text:** Earth : An Introduction to Physical Geology (9th or 10th Ed.) (Paperback)
by Edward J. Tarbuck, Frederick K Lutgens, Dennis Tasa

9th Edition: ISBN 0131148656

10th Edition: ISBN 0321663047

**9th Edition****10th Edition**Textbook Support Site: http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_tarbuck_earth_10

PREREQUISITES ADVISORY: This being an online course, it is advisable that you are computer literate, with a good working knowledge of the World Wide Web, e-mail, and word-processing. A high speed Internet connection is most advantageous.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Pursuit of understanding the physical characteristics of the earth as a whole and its past, present and future evolutionary processes. Unifying concepts such as plate tectonics, uniformitarianism, and geologic time will be studied. Additionally, the causes of natural geologic hazards and their effects on people, society, and the environment will be also be explored.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Diagram the Earth's interior layers, and compare and contrast the major features of those layers.
2. Explain the theory of plate tectonics and relate it to the major features of the Earth's surface.
3. Compare and contrast igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks and relate them to one another using the rock cycle.
4. Relate major rock deformation features to the geologic processes that cause them.
5. Compare and contrast the geologic processes that modify the earth's surface (i.e. weathering, mass wasting, stream, glacier, desert and shoreline systems).

CLASS ENROLLMENT NOTES: It is the student's responsibility to add, drop, or withdraw from classes before the deadlines stated in the class schedule. Petitions to add, drop, or withdraw after the deadline will not be approved without written proof of circumstances beyond the student's control, which made her/him unable to meet the deadline. Lack of money to pay fees is not considered an extenuating circumstance. Students anticipating difficulty in paying fees before the deadline should check with the Financial Aid Office about sources of funds or other alternatives for which they may be eligible. If you decide to withdraw from this course, you are reminded to do so before the posted withdraw date). If you fail to withdraw by that date and you stop participating, a final grade must be assigned to you.

INSTRUCTOR'S ONLINE COURSE POLICIES

A. Independent direction, discipline and motivation of the student are critical to both learning course content and academic success in this online course. It will be up to you, the student, for staying up with assignments, field trips, quizzes, and exams. Make sure and consult the instructor and/or fellow classmates about anything in this course that you find difficult and/or confusing. There are no make-up exams or accepted late work, unless the student provides proof of some compelling reason for the make-up. It is the student's responsibility to contact me personally to forewarn me of any problem in completing the regular-scheduled exams or other coursework by their due dates. Business, pleasure, or being generally ill, is not a compelling reason. Being deadly sick, or having a death in the family is good reason.

B. Teaching, Learning and Evaluation Methods and Policy: This course is taught as an on-line course. That is, the communication between the instructor and the students, as well as among students, takes place via electronic means on the Internet. Note: while the communication will occur by electronic means, the most important sources of information for the student, besides the course website, are the textbook and its associated tutorial CD, streaming instructional videos, and the instructor's complimentary website.

C. Assignments, either for discussion on the bulletin board, or for completion and return to the instructor, will be posted on the World Wide Web. Student contributions will be evaluated on both the quality (intelligent use of scientific terminology learned from using the textbook and other sources) and quantity (frequency and length) of comments. Reports from students, which are submitted directly to the instructor, will be evaluated based on quality (use of appropriate scientific vocabulary, for instance) and on rigor of the analysis. Testing will occur via the Internet, and tests will use a variety of formats (true-false, multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay).

D. Timelines, Deadlines, etc.: Assignments and quizzes will be available each week and will appear with a due date. Availability of each activity prior to its due date is as follows: 10 days for assignments, and 3 days for quizzes and exams. Student assignments will not be accepted or submitted following the due date. Note that because it sometimes happens that computer networks are down or unavailable, it is preferable to get assignments done a day or two earlier, so as to avoid trying to post an assignment on the very last minute of the due date, only to find that ones Internet Service Provider is down, for example.

STATEMENT OF RETENTION: Students, please discuss your plans to withdraw from class with your instructor. You might have options that may allow you to continue in class.

ONLINE NETIQUETTE AND STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

- Students are expected to respect and obey standards of student conduct while interacting online in this course. As your instructor, I have the following expectations of your communicative behavior while online:
- Promote a positive learning environment by exhibiting mutual respect and consideration of the feelings, ideas, and contributions of others, as reflected in your written dialog.
- Demonstrate a genuine desire to learn, interact, and improve.
- This class will be conducted in accordance with the college code of student conduct and basic standards of academic honesty. Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty are totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations of standards of academic honesty will be reported to the school dean for appropriate action. A detailed explanation of my plagiarism policy is found on the menu page for this course on the instructor's website. It is well worth your time to read my detailed policy if you have any concerns regarding plagiarism or cheating.

GRADING/EVALUATION

- I. **Assignments** (3 total --- 1 Intro @ 10 pts; and 2 Research @ 120 pts) = 250 points
- II. **Quizzes** (10 @ 15 points each) = 150 points
- III. **Exams** (2 @ 75 points each) = 150 points
- IV. **Late Work Policy:** No late work accepted
- V. **Extra Credit Policy:** Extra credit available upon request
- VI. **Grading Scale:** Your final grade is based purely on points percentage:

100% – 90% = 550 - 495 points = A

89% -- 80% = 494 – 440 points = B

79% -- 66% = 439 - 363 points = C

65% -- 55% = 362 - 300 points = D

ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES - LOGISTICS AND VITAL INFORMATION: Assessment of student learning outcomes for this class includes two research writing assignments, ten quizzes, and two exams in this class. Each assessment activity has a specific submittal due date. Make sure to keep a very close, repeat, VERY CLOSE track of the class schedule of activities, so that you stay on track with your coursework, and get all your fully completed work turned in on time. I suggest printing out the class schedule and taping it somewhere around your work area that you can view it regularly. **NOTE: It is *your responsibility* to know when these assessment activities are due.** I do not accept late work. It is in your best interest to attempt to turn in completed work ***ahead of time*** in order to avoid worry, anxiety, frustration, and the possibility (a very one real one) that either your computer, the server, acts of God, or other unforeseen forces, may prevent you from getting your work turned in during the last few moments before the deadline -- save yourself that grief by staying a day ahead of all the deadlines. The coursework due dates are regularly scheduled each week on a Wednesday and/or Sunday (except for the final exam) to make them easier to remember:

- 1) Quiz completion dates are Wednesdays and Sundays;
- 2) Midterm exam completion date is Wednesday, July 13, 2011
- 3) Final exam completion date is Friday, July 29, 2011
- 4) Research writing assignments are due on Wednesdays

The two research writing assignments will definitely take the lion's share of your study time in this class, as an online science class should. Therefore, it is important that you understand how I would like those assignments completed and submitted. I give VERY DETAILED instructions on what and how to complete both assignments.

The Two Geology Research Assignments are:

- 1) Plate Tectonics, Minerals, Rocks, and Resources

– Due Wednesday, July 6 @ 11:55 pm

- 2) Geologic Time and Crustal-Shaping Processes and Features

– Due Wednesday, July 27 @ 11:55 pm

The general format of how you should organize and submit your writing assignments for the benefit of both, you writing it and me grading it, is as follows: Your response to each of the six topics of the assignment should be broken into the number of topics listed in the assignment. Additionally for each topic, break up your written response to each topic into the number of each separate subtopic questions listed in the topic. Therefore, **your written response should look like an OUTLINE or laundry list in format – NOT a huge essay.** I prefer that you submit your assignment (as an attached file) as a Word.doc using Microsoft Word (name.doc) – I cannot open a WordPerfect file, for example. An example of what the assignment format should look like will be posted on the Internet, and in the assignment center.

EXTRA CREDIT: There are several extra credit assignments available upon request, including self-guided real and virtual fieldtrips. The last day to submit extra credit work is Sunday, July 25. If you are interested in doing extra credit work, then contact the instructor for more information.

WEB RESOURCES FOR THIS COURSE:

There are several major sources of geological information at your disposal for successfully completing this course – they are 1) your textbook, 2) the publisher's resource website that accompanies your textbook, 3) Earth Revealed Video Lessons available online, and 4) the instructor's lecture notes and PowerPoint lectures found at his personal website. The first and foremost course resource is your textbook and its accompanying website. Carefully read and study all assigned textbook reading prior to completing the associated quizzes, exams, and assignments. Note that the textbook has a complimentary textbook support site, which has additional resources and activities to help master the curriculum, which includes some good animations.

1) **Textbook Support Websites:** http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_tarbuck_earth_10 (10th Ed.) or http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_tarbuck_earth_9 (9th Ed.)

Secondly, Annenberg Media Company has available an excellent geology video instructional series (a total of twenty six 30 minute videos) on their website that is totally free for streaming video viewing (requires a simple initial registration by the student and a high-speed connection). Their website link to this valuable learning tool is found at:

2) **Instructor's Personal Student Website:** www.terrasonics.com

Click on the **MiraCosta Online** link to access all information pertaining directly to this course. Browse down the left-hand side menu for pertinent coursework information and resources.

3) **Earth Revealed Geology Video Series:** <http://www.learner.org/resources/series78.html>

I have listed the Earth Revealed video series number(s) that correspond to the specific topic(s) of study each week within the class schedule next to the textbook chapter reading assignments.

Thirdly, the professor's online **lecture notes** and **PowerPoint presentations** provide a wealth of additional, useful information – carefully read and study the lecture notes and view the complimentary PowerPoint presentations prior to completing the associated quizzes, exams, and assignments. The lecture notes and presentations can be directly accessed from the instructor's personal website, which includes an even wider variety of other web-based resources that may be of personal interest. Additionally, the site has links to the "**Earth Revealed**" geology instructional video series – a set of 24 half-hour lessons that requires a high-speed connection to watch. I have listed the "Earth Revealed" video series number(s) that correspond to the specific topic(s) of study each week within the class schedule below the textbook chapter reading assignments

MiraCosta Geology 101 Online Schedule – Summer 2011

Week	Textbook & ER Vids	Assignments, Quizzes & Exams	Due Date
1	Welcome Messages	Posting of Personal Greeting to Class	Mon 6/20
1	Course Syllabus	Quiz #1 - Syllabus	Wed 6/22
1	Ch. 1, 2; ER Videos 1 -6	Quiz #2 – Earth Overview and Plate Tectonics (Ch 1 and 2)	Sun 6/26
2	Ch 3, 23; ER Video 12	Quiz #3 - Minerals and Resources (Ch 3 and 23)	Wed 6/29
2	Ch 4, 5; ER Videos 13 & 14	Quiz #4 – Igneous Rocks, Magmas and Volcanoes (Ch 4 & 5)	Sun 7/3
3	Ch 6 -8; ER Videos 15 - 18	Quiz #5 –Sedimentary and Metamorphic Rocks (Ch 6, 7, and 8)	Wed 7/6
3		Research Assignment #1 – Due	Wed 7/6
3	Ch 9; ER Videos 10 & 11	Quiz #6 – Fossils and Geologic Time (Ch 9)	Sun 7/10

4	Exam Review –Ch 1-9, 23	Midterm Exam - (Chapters 1 through 9 and 23)	Wed 7/13
4	Ch 10, 13, 14; ER Video 7	Quiz #7 – Mountain Building (Ch 10, 13 and 14)	Sun 7/17
5	Ch 11, 12; ER Videos 8 & 9	Quiz #8 – Earthquakes (Ch 11 and 12)	Wed 7/20
5	Ch 16,17; ER Videos 19-21	Quiz #9 – Rivers and Groundwater (Ch 16 and 17)	Sun 7/24
6	Ch 15, 20, 21; ER Videos 16, 23 & 24	Quiz #10 – Mass Wasting, Shorelines, and Climate Change (Ch 15, 20 and 21)	Wed 7/27
6	Exam Review –Ch 10 to 20	Research Assignment #2 – Due	Wed 7/27
6	Exam Review –Ch 10 to 20	Final Exam - (Chapters 10 through 20)	Fri 7/29