

COURSE SYLLABUS - FALL 2009
ESCI-121:18/19 - INTRODUCTION TO EARTH SCIENCE

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. A.E. Nyema Jones

Required Text: Earth Science and the Environment, Fourth Edition; Thompson and Turk

DATE: S/T	LECTURE TOPIC	TEXTBOOK CHAPTER
Aug 29/Sept 01	Introductory lecture: Earth Science & related disciplines The Scientific Method; Earth's structure and composition: Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, Geosphere, Biosphere: BIRTH OF THE UNIVERSE /SOLAR SYSTEM (pages 608-615, 582-603) ... Periodic Table of the Elements/Structure of the Atom (Handout)	1 24/23
Sept 05/08	Composition, Classification & Properties of Minerals	2
Sept 12/15	Physical Properties & Identification of Nonsilicate Minerals (LAB Exercises 1 & 3) - VIDEO: Rocks & Minerals (18 minutes)	2
Sept 19/22	Identification of Silicate Minerals (LAB Exercise 2)	2
Sept 26/29	Geologic Resources:- Mineral Deposits/Mining, Energy Resources	5
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OCT 03/06	LECTURE EXAM I & LAB EXAM I (MINERALS) - Two Separate Exams	
Oct 10/13	Types of Rock/The Rock Cycle (VIDEO: Earth's Physical Features) Identification of Igneous Rocks (LAB Exercise 4)	3
Oct 17/20	Identification of Sedimentary Rocks & Metamorphic Rocks	3
Oct 24/27	Earth History: Geologic Time - Absolute Time & Relative Time Unconformities, Fossils, Geologic Time Scale , Correlation Evolution & Extinction - Demise of the Dinosaurs VIDEO: Dinosaurs (20 minutes)	4
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OCT 31/NOV 03	LECTURE EXAM II & LAB EXAM II (ROCKS) - Two Separate Exams	
Nov 07/10	Plate Tectonics, Mid-Ocean Ridge, Sea Floor Spreading	6
	Continental Drift, Magnetic Reversals (TRANSPARENCIES) VIDEO: Plate Tectonics & Continental Drift (20 minutes)	
NOVEMBER 13 -	LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE OR COMPLETELY WITHDRAW	
Nov 14/17	Earthquakes & Volcanoes (LAB Exercise 10)	7,8
	VIDEO: Volcanoes of the United States (20 minutes) Weathering, Soil & Erosion (pages 233-247) VIDEO ...	10
Nov 21/24	Water Resources: Supply/Demand, Uses/Diversion (pp.296-303) ..	12
	Glaciers & the Great Lakes of North America (pages 327-345) ..	13
	MAPS: Topographic, Geologic & Weather (LAB Exercises 7,8,9)	
NOVEMBER 26-29	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY RECESS (No Saturday Class)	
Dec 01 (T) } Dec 05 (S) }	Ocean Basins: Origin, Sea Floor, Continental Margins	15
	The Atmosphere: Origin, layers, pressure & temperature	17
	Energy Balance in the Atmosphere: Latitude/Longitude, Seasons	18
	Moisture, Clouds, Weather & Climate (Selected Pages) VIDEO ...	19,20
DECEMBER 08	REVIEW	
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DEC 12/15	FINAL EXAMINATION (Lecture and Lab combined) - One Exam/Scantron	
GRADING SCALE: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 0-59% = F		
THE INSTRUCTOR MAY MAKE CHANGES IN THIS SYLLABUS WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE IF NECESSARY		

**EARTH SCIENCE
LABORATORY**

SUPERVISED BY DR. NYEMA JONES - INSTRUCTOR

- 1) Physical properties of minerals
- 2) Identification of silicate of minerals
- 3) Identification of non-silicate of minerals
- 4) Identification of igneous rocks
- 5) Identification of sedimentary rocks
- 6) Identification of metamorphic rocks
- 7) Topographic maps
- 8) Geological maps
- 9) Weather maps
- 10) Determination of the epicenter of an earthquake

THERE WILL BE 3 EXAMS

EXAM ONEMINERALS

EXAM TWO.....ROCKS

EXAM THREE...(FINAL)....REMAINING ITEMS (ON THE SYLLABUS)

LAB WILL COUNT 50% OF COURSE GRADE

**NOTE: THERE IS NO MANUAL OR TEXTBOOK FOR THE LABORATORY WORK.
HANDOUTS WILL BE PROVIDED, OR OBTAINABLE FROM THE INTERNET.**

ESCI-121:18/19 -- INTRODUCTION TO EARTH SCIENCE

POLICY & GENERAL INFORMATION

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EL CENTRO: FALL SEMESTER 2009
TIME: TUESDAYS 5:20 PM--8:50 PM
SATURDAYS 8:30 AM-12:00 PM

Instructor: Dr. A.E. Nyema Jones
Tel: 773/426-9145 or 773/995-2306
E-Mail: ajones21@csu.edu
El Centro: 773/442-4080 (Message)

OBJECTIVES: A lecture and laboratory course introducing the principles and methods of Earth Science for comprehension of the basic concepts of geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy; topics emphasized for study include minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, weather patterns, and map interpretation.

ATTENDANCE & ASSIGNMENTS:

Regular class attendance is required. Upon entering the classroom, you should sign the attendance sheet provided by your instructor each day. It is your responsibility to sign-in daily for the purpose of keeping accurate record of your class attendance.

The attached syllabus contains a schedule of lecture and laboratory assignments. You are required to read each assignment carefully **PRIOR** to class. This will enable you to participate in class discussions, also to respond to oral questions that are pertinent. Additionally, **HOMEWORK** on important concepts of this course will be assigned throughout the semester to prepare you for exams. You are urged to complete and submit each homework to the instructor at the required time for evaluation, in order to receive credit.

The key to successful learning is constant review and repetition of the previously learned concepts. Cramming does not work, and learning is not easy. It is hard work which often takes a considerable amount of time and effort. **GOOD STUDY HABITS** include the following: Survey the chapter first, examining its objectives and subheadings, then read the entire chapter. Studying the text requires close reading to remember details supporting the main concepts. Underline or highlight major points and make notes. Carefully study the tables, graphs, pictures, charts, diagrams, equations, and symbols, because they provide factual information.

EXAMINATIONS & GRADING:

Grading will be based primarily on the number of exams listed on the syllabus, taken from the lecture/laboratory materials, handouts, and homework assignments. Types of questions will include **Multiple Choice, Matching, and True/False**, approximately seventy questions for an exam. You must make every effort to take examinations at the scheduled time. Illness and death in the family are the only legitimate excuses for missing an examination. There will be **NO MAKEUPS** of exams unless you have notified me of the nature of the **EMERGENCY** which prohibits your attendance **PRIOR TO THE EXAM**.

No form of cheating will be tolerated by the instructor; this will result in a grade of zero percent for the specific exam, quiz, or homework assignment on which the student cheated. Cheating includes copying or allowing a fellow student to copy your work on an examination or written assignment, also bringing to class and using small pocket/palm-size electronic devices containing stored information.

NO WORK IS GIVEN FOR EXTRA CREDIT IN THIS COURSE. DO YOUR BEST ON THE EXAMS & HOMEWORK.
Required Text: Earth Science and the Environment, 4th. Edition; Thompson & Turk, 2007

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