

460:206 Environmental Geology Syllabus

Instructor: Sweeta Chauhan

Office: 141 Smith Hall

Office Hours: M, T, 11:30 to 12:30 am Or by Appointment

Meeting Time: Section 1: TTh; Section 2: MW – Boyden 100

Course Description: This course is intended to provide you with a scientific overview of geology as it relates to human activities, termed “Environmental Geology”. Geology is a logical place to start in order to begin to understand complex environmental issues. In particular, we will investigate (a) the physical constraints imposed on human activities by the near-surface and surface geological processes that are continually shaping the environment that we live in, and (b) the resources that we utilize to sustain our lives on Earth. This course will focus on issues not addressed in detail in the “Planet Earth” class and is designed to compliment material covered in the “Environmental Geology Laboratory” classes.

****Note: Thirty percent of the grade in this class is based on quizzes and attendance that are taken with an electronic response pad every class. If you are not happy with the idea that you are expected to come to class regularly, on time and stay for the duration of the class then this is NOT the class for you. You cannot get a good grade in this class without committing to regular and continuous attendance. Furthermore, if you are technophobic then this class is also not for you. The response pads we will use are much simpler to use than your cell phone and other personal devices and nothing to be scared of. That said, every year a small minority complains about the use of technology in the classroom. If you think that you are likely to be one of those few, then this class is also NOT for you.****

Specific Learning objectives:

- Basic understanding of major geological processes occurring in the near surface of the Earth
- Comprehension of how environmental geological processes impact humans and society
- Appreciation of how anthropogenic activities are modify natural environmental processes

Textbook and clicker: Available from the New Jersey Bookstore and Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Bradley Hall.

Textbook - *Environmental Geology, Tenth Edition, Montgomery, C. W., 2013*, **Clicker - QT Device Turning Technologies, (mandatory)**. You will need to register your QT Device ID BEFORE 27th January through Rutgers Blackboard – Environmental Geology Spring 18 Section 2.

BRING THE DEVICE TO EVERY CLASS.

Blackboard: Lecture notes and website link along with Syllabus and course outline will be available on blackboard.

I will post a student version of the lecture notes on Blackboard by 7 pm of the day prior to a lecture.

Grading: You will be graded on the following [% of total grade shown]

- mid-term exam [35%]; final-exam [35%]; pop quizzes in class [20%]; attendance taken 3x in class [10%].
Attendance is mandatory.

Make up policy:

Mid-term & final exam: you must have an exceptional circumstance in order to qualify for a make-up exam. You will only be granted a make-up if you see me prior to the exam. No post-exam makeup requests will be granted

Pop quizzes: conducted in class and do not qualify for make-up.

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Topics covered

We will focus on the following aspects of Environmental Geology [relevant chapters indicated]:

SURFACE PROCESSES (Mid Term)

- INTRODUCTION TO TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS
- CH. 6. STREAMS & FLOODING
- CH. 7. COASTAL ZONES AND PROCESSES
- CH. 8. MASS MOVEMENTS
- CH. 9. ICE & GLACIERS; WIND & DESERTS
- CH. 10. CLIMATE; PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

RESOURCES (Finals)

- CH. 11. WATER
- CH. 14. ENERGY RESOURCES - FOSSIL FUELS
- CH. 15. ENERGY RESOURCES – ALTERNATIVE SOURCES
- CH. 16. WASTE DISPOSAL
- CH. 17. WATER POLLUTION
- CH. 18. AIR POLLUTION

Learning Resources

McGraw-Hill maintains a very good student webpage supporting the Montgomery text. It contains study guides, online quizzes and internet links to additional readings, guest essays and internet sites of interest. I highly recommend that you make use of this site in order to help with learning.

The site is located http://highered.mheducation.com/sites/0073524115/student_view0/index.html

Your responsibilities

You are expected to: [a] attend class [b] listen and learn [c] participate when requested

The following behavior is extremely undesirable and will reduce your participation/attendance grade: [a] chatting, talking, gossiping, giggling, moaning, ranting, chanting, humming, singing, crying, whining, etc. [b] cell phone use

[c] excessive leaving & reentering of the room [d] **any student caught using clicker as proxy for fellow classmate!!!!**

[e] anything else that makes excessive or unwanted noise

Any of the above can seriously distract other students, their ability to learn and obtain a good grade in class.

SERIOUS STUFF:

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement: If you need accommodations because of a documented disability, contact the Disabled Student Services Office on x5300. Please inform me ASAP, do not leave it till a day before the exam.

Academic Honesty Policy: Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. The first occurrence of any of this behavior will result in a grade of "F".