



Earth and the Environment

Instructor: Dr. Jeanette Pope

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Office Hours: MW 10 – 12 or by appointment



Course Goals

In this class, you will...

- *learn the scientific method and apply quantitative reasoning skills using geology as a framework;
- *satisfy your curiosity about the world around us by discovering why and how the earth has formed and changed through time; and
- *become an informed, science-literate citizen who understands geologic processes.

Course Text: *Essentials of Geology, 2nd ed.* by S. Marshak, available at Fine Print.

Lab Book and Materials: There is a \$10 lab fee that covers your lab manual and materials for the class (note, there is no additional text for lab). This fee will be assessed to your student account after the adjustment period.

Course Outline:

This class consists of two components, lecture (75% of grade) and laboratory (25% of grade). Although we have a separate lab time, I have found that students learn best when “lab” and “lecture” activities are blended throughout the course. Therefore, we will do lab exercises when they make the most sense in the over all structure of the semester, not when the schedule of classes dictates.

I use PowerPoint in class 1) because it will help you organize the material and 2) so I can more fully explain the figures used in your text. My lecture notes will be available online (either through the I-drive or Blackboard). I would recommend that you print notes and bring them to class with you. Your success in this class requires that you stay engaged during lecture (no snoozing, no whammies!) AND that you annotate my notes with additional information *that make the material meaningful to you.*

Ideas and theories from the lecture will be applied in lab exercises. In addition to lab assignments, there will be three lab quizzes to specifically test the information covered in the labs. The lab manual and most of the materials that you need will be provided as part of your lab fee. Some weeks we will go outside for field trips, which will be announced ahead of time. *Please dress accordingly!!* Field trips will be rescheduled only due to extreme weather.

Grading:

Grades will be based on your performance according to the following:

In class exams:	40% (20% each)
Lab Quizzes:	20%
Lab Exercises:	15% total
Cumulative Final Exam:	25%

The standard grading scale will apply for all graded work unless a curve is warranted. However, in no case will you earn a grade below the standard scale.

Course Policies and General Information

*Your attendance in both lecture and lab is essential for you to learn the material and therefore, **attendance is required**. If you need to miss a class or lab because of sickness or personal emergency (see student handbook), please try to let me know ahead of time so we can arrange a time for you to make up the material. If I do not hear from you within 24 hours of a missed class or lab, your absence will be considered unexcused and you will not have a chance to make up any graded material.

*There will be two hourly exams worth 40% of your final grade. The dates of the exams are noted in the schedule. I will make every effort to keep the exams on the date listed. Make-up exams will not be given unless there is a documented emergency or unless we have arranged a make-up exam *in advance* because of exceptional circumstances.

*The hourly exams will focus on the topics presented in lecture. In addition, questions may be drawn from reading assignments, lab topics, or homework assignments. The exams will not be cumulative. However, we will build on previous knowledge throughout the semester, and therefore you may see topics from a previous section if I feel they are pertinent to your understanding of the current material. The final exam is cumulative.

*Your final exam is scheduled for **Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 8:30 am** and must be taken at this time. It is against University Policy to take final exams at other times. Please plan your travel accordingly.

*The due date for homework will be announced when the assignment is handed out. *No late homework will be accepted.*

***To receive a Q** for this course, you must:

- Average 75% or better on the lab quizzes and Q homework assignment,
- Receive a 70% or better as the final grad in the course, and
- Complete **all** lab assignments.

*We will be using a web program called Blackboard through out the course. The address for this site is <http://blackboard.depauw.edu>. Please be sure to check the site frequently for important announcements.

*To be successful in this class, you will need to come to class prepared and actively participate in all class activities (including lecture!) This means you need to read the text, complete assignments before class, and perhaps most importantly, *ask questions about anything you don't understand!!* You can ask questions in class, during office hours, during lab, or via email. I am available to help you, but it is your responsibility to figure out what you need help with! In addition, I would encourage everyone to go to the Q Center in the Academic Resource Center to find out what additional help is available to you.

****Academic Integrity**** Any activity which gives one student an unfair advantage over other students will be handled in accordance with established University procedures as described in the Student Handbook