

SECTION:

- 39391; MWF; 10:30-11:20; room SCI-119

INSTRUCTOR:

- Connie Christensen - Office: SCI-121
- Office hours – MW 1:30-2 pm or by appointment
- E-mail: cchristensen@vcccd.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- Geology is the study of the Earth. This course will include minerals, rocks, volcanoes, earthquakes, geologic time, plate tectonics and the interior of the Earth. This course is designed to fulfill the natural science requirement.
- This course transfers to UC:CSU.

REQUIRED TEXT:

- *ESSENTIALS OF GEOLOGY*, AGI/NAGT (Lutgens, Tarbuck, & Tasa), 10th edition, Prentice-Hall Publishing Company, New Jersey, 2009. (ISBN: 0-13-600376-1)

ATTENDANCE:

- Your class attendance is essential in order to pass this course! If you miss a class, are late for class, or leave class early, **you are responsible** for the material that was covered during your absence, contact me, or a classmate to get the assignment, or to get any other important information discussed in class!
- Please turn off all cell phones and pagers during class time!

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

- 4 Exams and a Comprehensive Final
- All exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. Short answer questions will be graded based on comprehension of geology. Questions will be based on the textbook and lecture material.
- The lowest score of the first four exams will be dropped. If a student does not take an exam the missed exam will be counted as a zero and will be counted as the dropped exam. No make-up exams will be given.

GRADING POLICY:

- 50% per exam (20%) and 25% Final (40%): A - 90 to 100%; B - 80 to 89%; C - 60 to 79%; D - 50 - 59%; F - 49% - 0%
- Cheating or plagiarism will result in a 0 (zero) for that exam and may result in a dismissal from class with a grade of F or be reported to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action.
- The only materials allowed during an exam are pencils, pens, erasers, and the exam.
- ***Taking any portion of the exam out of the classroom, at any time, for any reason, will result in a grade of 0 (zero) for that exam!***

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Employ the scientific method and critical thinking to solve scientific problems on exams.
2. Utilize the theory of plate tectonics as a framework for understanding the origin of mountains, volcanoes, and earthquakes.
3. Analyze and interpret the Earth as a dynamic planet with many interacting parts and a complex history.

CORE COMPETENCIES:

1. Employ the vocabulary of the subject studied.
2. Apply lessons from past or learned knowledge to new situations.
3. Defend a hypothesis to explain observed phenomenon.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND READING LIST:

Week/ Dates	Subject	Chapter
1/Jan12-16	Introduction	Ch. 1
Jan 19	<i>Holiday</i>	
2/ Jan 20-23	Minerals	Ch. 2
3 / Jan 26-30	Igneous Rocks	Ch. 3
4 / Feb 2-6	Volcanoes <u>EXAM 1</u>	Ch. 4
5 / Feb 9-12	Weathering	Ch. 5
Feb 13, 16	<i>Holiday</i>	
6 / Feb 17-20	Sedimentary Rocks <u>EXAM 2</u>	Ch. 6
7 / Feb 23-27	Metamorphic Rocks	Ch. 7
8 / Mar 2-6	Geologic Time	Ch. 18
9 / Mar 9-13	Earthquakes & Earth's Interior <u>EXAM 3</u>	Ch. 14
10 / Mar 16-20	Plate Tectonics	Ch. 15
11 / Mar 23-27	Origin of Ocean Floor	Ch. 16
12 / Mar 30- Apr 3	Crustal Deformation & Mountain Building	Ch. 17
Apr 6-10	<i>Spring Break</i>	
13 / Apr 13-17	Mass Wasting <u>EXAM 4</u>	Ch. 8
14 / Apr 20-24	Running Water	Ch. 9
15 / Apr 27-May 1	Groundwater	Ch. 10
16 / May 4-8	Shorelines	Ch. 13
17 / May 10-13	Deserts	Ch. 12

May 18 from 10:00-noon in classroom (Monday)

Final