



# **PHYSICAL GEOLOGY - GEOL 1403**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2022

## **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Cheryl Hobbs

**Office Location:** Boles High School Room 110

**Office Phone:** (903) 914-1329

**University Email Address:** [Cheryl.Hobbs@tamuc.edu](mailto:Cheryl.Hobbs@tamuc.edu)

**Boles High School Email Address:** [chobbs@bolesonline.com](mailto:chobbs@bolesonline.com)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** email

**Communication Response Time:** within 12 hours

**I'm available for tutoring every morning from 7:30 - 7:50 and every afternoon from 4:20 - 4:40.**

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

***Textbook*** Tarbuck, Lutgens, Earth Science

### **Course Description**

A systematic study of minerals, rocks, and the processes which shape and modify the surface features of the earth. Energy, plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, and the practical aspects of geology are studied.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the elements of the scientific method and explain how these principles apply to the study of the earth.

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2. Assess and evaluate competing hypotheses regarding the concept of geologic time, the origin of the earth and solar system, and plate tectonics.
3. Test for the physical and chemical properties of minerals, and identify the most common minerals found in igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.
4. Explain the geologic processes of tectonism, erosion, and mineral and rock formation
5. Use the basic geologic principle of uniformitarianism and the examples of present-day geologic processes to explain the formation and evolution of the features of the earth.
6. Critical Thinking - Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
7. Communication - In written, oral, and/or visual communication A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
8. Empirical and Quantitative Skills - Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.
9. Teamwork - Students will be able to work together toward a shared purpose relevant to the course or discipline with a sense of shared responsibility for meeting that purpose.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Using the Google Classroom system, Microsoft Word, and PowerPoint. Being able to submit a document online.

### **Instructional Methods**

The majority of the information will be presented in person in a lecture/class discussion method. Hands-on laboratory activities will also be used to give practical applications whenever possible.

In the event that you are unable to participate in person, you will be required to participate in an asynchronous classroom via D2L, check in daily, complete daily assessments, and complete all assignments required of the in person students. You will also be required to meet all deadlines.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

- Attend all classes
- Actively participate in class discussions. In order to do this, you must read the assigned material before you come to class.

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- Complete all assignments and exercises and all homework assignments.
- Successfully pass two mid-term exams and a final project.
- Complete two research papers on topics to be assigned. Topics and criteria will be on Google Classroom.
- Check your school emails and Google Classroom daily for assignments and possible changes to the syllabus.

## **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

### **Assessments**

Exams will be worth 50% of your grade

The research papers will be worth 20% of your grade

Lab assignments will be worth 20% of your grade

Daily assignments will be worth 10% of your grade

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive

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support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

### Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

### Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest

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Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.  Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.  
 Pop-ups are allowed.  
 JavaScript is enabled.

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Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
  - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### Brightspace Support

### Need Help?

### *Student Support*

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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## **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.

## **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

## **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

I am available every day from 7:45 - 4:00. If you cannot get in to see me during my scheduled office hours, contact me and I will arrange a time to meet with you.

# **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

## **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

You will be expected to follow all university policies and procedures as well as those of Boles High School. If you know you will be absent at the scheduled time for an exam, please make arrangements ahead of time to make up the test.

## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

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## **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **ADA Statement**

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

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Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

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## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The week of:

August 30	Introduction	
September 6	Minerals	Chapter 1
September 13	Mineral Identification	Chapter 1
	<b>September 17 First research paper due</b>	
September 20	Igneous Rocks	Chapter 2
September 27	Sedimentary and Metamorphic Rocks	Chapter 2
	<b>September 30 First exam</b>	
October 4	Weathering, Soil and Mass Wasting	Chapter 3
October 11	Running Water and Groundwater	Chapter 4
October 18	Glaciers, Deserts, and Wind	Chapter 5
	<b>October 22 Second research paper due</b>	
October 25	Earthquakes	Chapter 6
November 1	Plate Tectonics	Chapter 7
	<b>November 4 Second Exam</b>	
November 8	Igneous Activity	Chapter 8
November 15	Mountain Building	Chapter 9
November 22 - 25	<b>No school - Thanksgiving Break</b>	
November 29	Relative Dating	Chapter 10
December 6	Earth History	Chapter 11
December 13	<b>Final exam</b>	

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