

# **GEOL 100.00 – Introduction to Geology Syllabus (Summer 2021)**

**Instructor: Tom Carboni**

Tuesday and Thursday 9:30am – 12:38pm

**\*Fully Online\***

5/27/21 – 7/8/21

\*This course will fulfill the Common Core Requirement for category D, Scientific World.

My Office: On Blackboard Collaborate only

Office Hours: 1 hour per week. Times are to be determined.

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Department Office: 1006 Hunter North

**Contact Policy:** In order for me to respond to your emails as efficiently as possible please adhere to the following instructions: (1) Include the course name and number in your subject line (GEOL 100). (2) Include your entire name as it appears in CUNYfirst in your email (3) Email me from your @myhunter account. I try to answer all emails within 24 hours. Allow for a 48 hour delay on the weekends.

**Brief description/purpose of course:** This course will be of interest to any student who wants to learn more about the Earth as well as to those contemplating a major in Geography or Environmental Studies. The lecture will cover the formation of the Earth, minerals, rocks and the rock cycle, plate tectonics, geophysical properties of the Earth, earthquakes, volcanism, the structure and formation of the sea floor and mountain building, all in the framework of vast geologic time.

Under the Hunter Core Requirements this course satisfies D, Scientific World. This course also fulfills the Stage 2 group E of the General Education Requirement (GER). Combined with GEOL 10100, this course satisfies one of the core requirements for the “new” geography major. For Psychology majors, this course, combined with GEOL 10100, satisfies one of the laboratory science requirements. For everyone else, you do not need to take the lab and lecture together. They are separate courses.

**Course Format:** This course will be taught as a synchronous online course using Blackboard Collaborate. You are expected to attend the live sessions and actively participate. Make sure you have the time set aside so that you can succeed in this course. Remember, this is an intensive course in a shortened summer session. You MUST be able to keep up with the material on a weekly basis.

## **Required textbook:**

Marshak, Stephen. Essentials of Geology, 6<sup>th</sup> edition ISBN-13: 978-0393667523

\* The 6<sup>th</sup> edition can be rented on Amazon as a paperback or ebook starting at \$27

\*\* Older editions (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>) are acceptable.

**Expected Student Outcomes:** At the end of the course the successful student shall be able to:

- Describe the formation of our universe and our planet
- Explain the earth's internal composition and layer properties
- Describe Plate Tectonic Theory
- Describe how particular geologic features form
- Explain mineral formation, properties, and methods of identification
- Describe the Rock Cycle and how each type of rock forms
- Understand and be able to interpret geologic hazards
- Recognize geologic structures
- Discuss geologic time and Earth History
- Identify human impacts on climate

**Course Grading Summary:**

Exam 1: 20%

Exam 2: 20%

Final Exam: 30%

Homework (Chapter Quizzes – 11 in total): 20%

Discussion Board: 10%

**Exams and grades**

a) Letter grades are given based on Hunter College's official grading policy:

<http://catalog.hunter.cuny.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=1433>

b) Exams will be taken online and open book. Exams 1 & 2 will be about an hour long while the final exam will be 1.5 hours long. The final will be cumulative. All exams must be turned in promptly by the due date. If not, there will be a substantial late penalty of 25 points off per day.

c) Make-up exams are ONLY available in extreme cases, and with medical (or other) forms that confirm the absence.

d) I will agree to the CR/NC option only if the conditions stated in the CR/NC form are satisfied: all course work has been completed, and you earned grades such that you accumulate at least 50 points total in the course. Students on probation are not eligible for this option. You must submit the CR/NC form before you take the final. Requests for CR/NC as a final grade will not be accepted during or after the final exam.

e) There will be NO INCOMPLETES (with the exception of a death, serious illness, or work-related issues such as travel). Incompletes must be requested in writing prior to the last class session (unless of an unforeseen emergency as outlined above) and will be given only if your grade is at "C" or above at the time the IN is filed, and with evidence of a satisfactory reason. At the time you request an IN you must also complete a Contract to Resolve an Incomplete Grade (form available at the college) and get my signature. Otherwise, I will average your existing grades based on the course grading rubric and record the grade you have earned. To receive a CR/NC you must have completed all the course requirements (exams, quizzes, etc.) and have requested the CR/NC option prior to beginning the final exam. Based on your final score, you will be assigned as a letter grade based on the numerical standards that can be found in the Hunter College Undergraduate Catalogue (see link in a))

**Homework:** There will be weekly homework assignments which are given to keep you up to date with the material. They will be given on blackboard and will pertain to the material gone over during the past week. Each chapter quiz will contain about 15 questions which draw from the reading, powerpoint, and/or lecture. You will have only one attempt to complete the quizzes in a span of 30 consecutive minutes. They will be due on Sunday at 11:59pm at the end of each week. For each day late there will be a 10% deduction

**Discussion Board:** The Discussion Board is 10% of your grade. Each week you are expected to create one original post pertaining to the week's topics and also respond to another student's post. You can post anything from current events, relevant videos, questions extending beyond the scope of our course, geology related pictures from your own life or pictures, etc, all with some brief descriptions. The more you participate and immerse yourself in the material, the more interesting and interactive the class will be. In addition, please be respectful of other students' comments, opinions, questions, and ideas. If you do not display proper netiquette, you will get an automatic zero for the discussion board grade.

**Lecture:** In the blackboard collaborate sessions I will explain the key concepts of geology in each chapter. You are expected to devote time outside the classroom to understand the concepts, review questions given at the end of chapters in the textbook, or questions that I may ask in class. I expect that lectures will give you a clear idea of what is expected in the homework and exams. (Note: as a general rule of thumb for a college level course, you are expected to spend two hours outside the classroom for each hour in the classroom in order to receive a good grade). Powerpoints will be posted on blackboard at least a whole day before discussed in lecture so it is a good idea to go over them in advance.

The following are useful tips to do well in this or any class:

- Attend class and take detailed notes (mostly of what I say and verbally emphasize since PowerPoints will be posted on blackboard).
- Read the assigned material in the text (or other) before coming to class / watching the lectures.
- Re-write your notes as soon as possible after class. This will allow you to fill in the details still fresh in your memory, and prepare questions.
- Test yourself by answering the questions in the book and in class.
- Carefully study the diagrams and charts in the book and in the lectures.

**Extra Credit:** No extra credit is given in this course. Whatever effort you would put into an extra credit assignment put into completing homework assignments and studying for exams. If you have concerns about your grade please come and talk to me

**Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity:** Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

**ADA Policy – Students with Disabilities:** In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure

necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772-4857 or (212) 650-3230.

### **Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct**

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College affirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationship. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444)
- b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose ([jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry ([colleen.barr7@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:colleen.barr7@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link: <http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/la/Policy-on-Sexual-Misconduct-12-1-14-with-links.pdf>

## Tentative Schedule of Topics

Below is a tentative schedule of lecture topics and the associated chapter material.

I reserve the right to change the schedule and/or assignments as necessary. Here is a link to the academic calendar for other important dates such as tuition refund dates and withdrawal dates:  
<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/onestop/calendars>

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MATERIAL</u>
1	Th	5 / 27	Syllabus and Introduction to the Course Ch. 1 – The Universe, Our Solar System, and Earth in Context
2	Tu	6 / 1	Ch. 2 – Plate Tectonics
	Th	6 / 3	Ch. 8 - Earthquakes
3	Tu	6 / 8	Ch. 3 – Minerals <b>Exam #1 Made Available - Ch. 1,2,3,8</b>
	Th	6 / 10	<b>Exam #1 Due by 12pm noon</b> Ch. 4 – Magma and Igneous Rocks
4	Tu	6 / 15	Ch. 5 - Volcanoes
	Th	6 / 17	Ch. 6 – Sedimentary Rocks
5	Tu	6 / 22	Ch. 7 – Metamorphism and Metamorphic Rocks <b>Exam #2 Made Available - Ch. 4,5,6,7</b>
	Th	6 / 24	<b>Exam #2 Due by 12pm noon</b> Ch. 10 – Deep Time: How Old is Old?
6	Tu	6 / 29	Ch. 11 – A Biography of Earth
	Th	7/1	Ch. 12 – Energy and Mineral Resources
7	Tu	7 / 6	Ch. 19 – Global Change in the Earth System <b>Final Exam Made Available (All Chapters)</b>
	Th	7/8	<b>Final Exam Due by 12:00pm noon</b>

Remember: **Homework is due the Sunday after the topic is covered in Lecture by 11:59pm.** You only have one attempt to answer approximately 15 questions in 30 minutes.