

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
Geology 1100, Physical Geology

Semester/Year: Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 2

Credit Hours: 4

Class Time: 1:00-1:50 p.m.

Days: MWF

Room: TM 111

Instructor's Name: Beth Wisely, PhD

Instructor's Contact

Information: Office TM 105

Office Phone: ext. 2233

(307) 268-2233

Email:

bwisely@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: In person, TM 105

Monday: 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Thursday: 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Correspondence with Instructor:

Email is a simple and quick way to reach me, and I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours, often in less time. I do not mind students using my first name, Beth, to address me, but please be respectful within your correspondences. If you prefer to address me in a more formal manner, please use my appropriate title, Dr. Wisely.

Course Description: Geology 1100 is a lecture and laboratory science course covering the composition and geologic features of the earth, and the processes that formed them.

Corequisites: Students must also be registered in GEOL 1100 L, the companion lab section for this course.

Each student enrolled in this course is responsible for checking his/her Casper College email account for communications from the instructor. Messaging done through Moodle will be forwarded to instructor's email address (bwisely@caspercollege.edu), and will therefore take slightly longer to be received by the instructor.

Goal: The overarching goal is that the student become conversant in the scientific method, and become able to apply its principles as an informed consumer of scientific information. The course goals include gaining awareness and understanding of the geologic surroundings, and observing the evidence of the dynamic forces at work on an evolving planet Earth.

Outcomes: Passing students should understand Earth's internal structure, how rocks and minerals form, and how plate motions cause earthquakes and build volcanoes and mountains. In labs students describe and identify minerals and rocks, use earthquake data, evaluate geologic hazards, and interpret geologic structures. Casper College General Education Outcomes covered by this course include:

- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
- Use the scientific method
- Solve problems using critical thinking
- Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data

Methodology: This course will consist of text readings, laboratory exercises, quizzes, and exams

** Since this is a lab-based course, if you do not pass the lab portion, you cannot pass the course. **

Evaluation Criteria: Student evaluation will be as objective as possible with the following

Class Assignments: 20%

4 Quizzes/Exams: 50%

Attendance: 5%

Labs: 25% (Based on GEOL 1100 L scores)

TOTAL: 100%

Grade Cutoffs

A: 89%+, B: 80-88%, C: 70-79%, D: 60-69%, F: <60%

Required Text, Readings, and Materials:

TEXTS:

1. *Essentials of Geology* by Marshak 4th Edition – REQUIRED
2. *Laboratory Manual for Introductory Geology* by Ludman and Marshak 3rd Edition - REQUIRED

Class Policies: Attendance is mandatory. I reserve the right to lower your grade if you have 6 or more unexcused absences through the semester. As each class period is only 50 minutes, please make efforts to arrive on time. We will start promptly at 1:00 PM.

It is the students' responsibility to adhere to assignment due dates, and follow up on any work missed due to absence, excused or otherwise.

Last date to Change to audit status or to withdraw with a W Grade: Check the Casper College Academic Calendar.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

General Course Schedule: Any changes made to the general course schedule by the instructor will be announced in class and/or via email.

WEEKS	Chapter Readings	Topics and Assignments
Weeks 1-5	Chapters 1-4	Earth in context, plate tectonics, minerals, and igneous rocks
Weeks 6-9	Chapters 5-7	Volcanoes, sedimentary rocks, and metamorphic rocks
Weeks 10-13	Chapters 8-10	Earthquakes, mountain building, and geologic time
Weeks 14-16	Chapters 13, 14, 18	Mass movements, fluvial systems, and glaciers