OBJECTIVE
Geology 1 should expand your knowledge of our planet Earth, its natural phenomena and how they affect human lives. You should become more comfortable using the vocabulary of the earth sciences and gain insight into the natural processes that have shaped our Earth through time. This is a multi-disciplinary earth science course that will include aspects of chemistry, physics, astronomy, biology and oceanography. Some math will be necessary and use of the metric system is essential. You will be taught about the earth’s internal structure, plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, and mountain belts. Other topics include, surface water, groundwater, landslides, beach erosion, glaciers, and non-renewable resources. At the end of the course, you should be more adept in identifying minerals, rocks, landforms, and geologic hazards and have an increased understanding of the natural processes by which they were formed.

PREREQUISITE
The recommended preparation for this course is eligibility for English 84

SCHEDULE

Week 1
2/11 The Nature of Geology and Investigating Geologic Questions
Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 and pages 358-359

Week 2
2/18 Plate Tectonics
Chapter 3

Week 3
2/25 Plate Tectonics continued
Chapter 3 and parts of Chapter 10

****FIRST EXAM****
Week 4
3/3  Earth’s Materials
     Chapter 4
Week 5
3/10  Igneous Environments
     Chapter 5
Week 6
3/17  Volcanoes and Volcanic Hazards
     Chapter 6

****SECOND EXAM****

Week 7
3/24  Sedimentary Environments
     Chapter 7
Week 8
3/31  Deformation and Metamorphism
     Chapter 8
Week 9
4/14  Geologic Time
     Chapter 9

****THIRD EXAM****

Week 10
4/21  The Seafloor and Continental Margins
     Chapter 10
Week 11
4/28  Mountain Belts and Continents
     Chapter 11
Week 12
5/5  Earthquakes and Earth’s Interior
     Chapter 12

****FOURTH EXAM****

Week 13
5/12  Climate, Weather, and Their Influences on Geology
     Weathering, Soil, and Unstable Slopes
     Chapter 13 and Chapter 15
Week 14
5/19  Shorelines, Glaciers and Changing Sea Levels
     Chapter 14
Week 15
5/26  Rivers and Streams and Water Resources
      Chapter 16 and Chapter 17

Week 16
6/2    Energy and Mineral Resources
      Chapter 18

***FINAL EXAM***

GRADING POLICY
Your grade will be based on four exams, homework, attendance, and quizzes as follows:

Five exams  =  70% (you can drop one exam)
  Presentation  =  15%
  Homework  =  10%
  Attendance  =  5%
  Total  =  100%

A = 90-100 %, B = 89-80%, C = 79-70%, D = 69-51%, F =50% and below

Please contact me if you make less than a C on the first exam. My contact information is both at the top and bottom of this syllabus.

EXAMS
There will be five exams. Language translators (electronic dictionaries) cannot be used during exams. If this presents a big problem, please see me this first week.

PRESENTATION
Research and present to the class on a relevant topic in our text book. Internet research is encouraged.

HOMEWORK AND READING
In general, homework will be assigned on Mondays and will be due on Fridays. Homework will count for 10% of your grade. You will need to BUY THE TEXT BOOK *(Exploring Geology by Reynolds, Johnson, Kelly, Morin, and Carter)* so that you can read the assignments and answer homework questions.
ATTENDANCE
Attendance will be taken and will count from -5% to +5% of your grade. Excessive absences will have a negative effect on your grade. Good attendance will have a positive effect on your grade.

LABORATORY
I strongly recommended that you take the Geology 1 lab course in addition to the lecture. Although the lab course is optional, applying principles you hear in lecture to hands-on learning will help you achieve the goals listed in the course objectives and likely raise your grade in both lecture and lab.

LATE HOMWORK, MISSED EXAMS, TARDINESS, AND CONDUCT
We all expect that there will be none of the above. Normally, there will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam you need to contact me. Tardiness is disruptive to the whole class: be respectful and be on time. Excessive tardiness is considered unacceptable behavior in the Standards of Student Conduct.  

CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT
Unacceptable behaviors include:
conduct that jeopardizes health and safety
cheating and plagiarism
tardiness
profanity
pornography
children or pets in class
private conversations
inappropriate displays of affection
uncooperativeness
continually leaving ones seat
eating and drinking
reading unrelated materials
soliciting funds and/or signatures
Use of all unauthorized electronic devices such as walkmans, phone, beepers, pagers, ipods, and music players.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
OFFICE: Natural Science Building, Room 208  PHONE: 310-660-3368
You can find me before or after class and I generally will be in my office between 10:30am and NOON on Mon. and Wed. You also can set up an appointment if you cannot make these hours.