

GEOLOGY 2 - HISTORY OF PLANET EARTH
EL CAMINO COLLEGE
FALL 2009

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Chuck Herzig

OFFICE: NATS 210

OFFICE PHONE: 310-660-3593 ext. 3366

OFFICE HOURS: 1 – 2 M, 5:00 – 6 pm Tues, 5:10 – 6 pm Wed, 5 – 6 pm Thurs, or by appointment

TEXTBOOK: Geology 2 Class Notes (ECC Bookstore) – mandatory for class (unmarked, clean copy)

COURSE CONTENT: The purpose of this course is to familiarize you with the history of the dynamic Earth. Geologic and biologic processes that shape the dynamic Earth can be understood by simple observation, and by applying basic chemical and physical laws. This course will: (a) teach you the vocabulary used by geologists to understand the history of the Earth; (b) give you an understanding of the dynamic Earth; (c) give you an appreciation for geologic time; (d) teach you about the important inter-relationships between life and the Earth.

GRADING:

(a) 4 Midterm Exams (100 pts each) (SCANTRON and short answer). Midterm examinations will be given at the beginning of the designated class meeting. Time for each midterm examination is 60 minutes. If you are late to the examination, you will only have the remainder of the designated time to complete the examination. Closed notes. No make-up midterm exams. Lecture materials follow the exam. Dictionaries (electronic or paper) are not allowed on the midterm exams or the final examination.

(b) Final Exam (100 pts) The mandatory final exam will consist of 2 parts. Part 1 will be a scantron test (closed notes). Part 2 will consist of 3 essay questions - comprehensive, open notes. No make-up without verifiable excuse. **Date of Final Examination: Monday, December 14, 2009, 2 pm.**

(c) Research paper (100 pts) 3 to 5 pages in length on a topic relating to the history of planet Earth **exclusive of the Holocene**. Topics must be approved ahead of time. The paper will follow a scientific format to be discussed in class. Encyclopedias or CD-ROM encyclopedias are forbidden. References from the Internet are acceptable. Deadline for paper submission = **11/30/09**. Turn in paper/projects at the beginning of class.

(d) Other assignments during the semester (TBA). Assignments are due at the beginning of class before the lecture begins. For in-class assignments, you must be present for the assignment. If you are not present in class on the day of the assignment then you cannot receive credit. Total points = 100.

(e) The Geology 2 Class Notes workbook will be collected two times over the course of the semester to insure that you are maintaining good and complete notes. The goal is to evaluate your workbook to give you feedback in order to maximize your success in this class. Collection dates = TBA. Total points = 100 (50 pts each).

(f) Attendance is important. Arriving at class on time is important. If you miss a class, or are late to class, you are responsible for acquiring the materials that you missed. Late work will receive a 10 % late fee deduction if submitted after the lecture begins (but before the lecture is over) on the day the assignment is due. There is a 35 % penalty for late work if submitted after the lecture is over on the day the assignment is due. The final deadline for turning in all late work is Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009 at my office at 6:00 pm. Work submitted after this time will not be counted toward your final grade.

Calculation of final grade based on:

4 Midterm Exams = 50.00 % (12.50 % each)

Other TBA Assignments = 12.5 %

Final Exam = 12.50 %

Paper/Project = 12.50 %

Class Notes = 12.50 %

Grade Scale: A = 90 - 100 %

B = 78 - 89 %

C = 65 - 77 %

D = 52 – 64 %

F = ≤ 51 %

All policies and procedures regarding academic integrity according to the Code of Conduct in the El Camino College Catalog will be followed in this classroom. Turn off all pagers, cell phones, and other electronic devices before entering

the classroom. Do not use cell phones or pagers during class time. Leave the classroom if must use your cell phone for communications. Do not use Entertainment Listening Devices (ipods) during classtime. You are expected to conduct yourself in a mature fashion while enrolled in this class. If you cannot do so, then you will have to leave. Excessive cellphone text messaging during classtime – meaning that you were asked more than one time to stop text messaging during class time - will require you to leave the classroom. Any violation of academic standards will be reported using Academic Dishonesty Report Form C, and/or Violation of Standards of Student Conduct Form A.

HISTORY OF PLANET EARTH

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>TOPIC</u> (subject to change)
1 (8/31)	Introduction The Dynamic Earth Origin of the Earth and Moon
2 (9/7)	Labor Day – NO CLASS
3 (9/14)	Plate Tectonics
4 (9/21)	Geologic Time Rocks, Fossils, and Time; Origin of Life
5 (9/28)	Precambrian History 1st MIDTERM EXAM
6 (10/5)	Changes of Life through Time
7 (10/12)	Paleozoic Geology
8 (10/19)	Paleozoic Geology 2nd MIDTERM EXAM
9 (10/26)	Paleozoic: Invertebrates Evolution of sex & animals; Burgess Shale
10 (11/2)	Paleozoic: Vertebrates & plants 3rd MIDTERM EXAM
11 (11/09)	Mesozoic Geology
12 (11/16)	Mesozoic Life; Dinosaurs, Flight, Flowering Plants Asteroid Impacts & Extinction
13 (11/23)	Mesozoic Life, cont... 4th MIDTERM EXAM
14 (11/30)	Cenozoic Geology Cenozoic Life (Mammals) Primates & Humans PAPERS/PROJECTS DUE
15 (12/7)	Ice Ages, Climate Change, Global Warming, Extinction, and the Future
16 (12/14)	FINAL EXAMINATION

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students can identify the salient features of the basic concepts of geology. (This includes the ability to recall the definitions of the specialized vocabulary of geology.)
- Students recognize and can accurately articulate how the Earth affects humans' lives and how human activities affect the Earth

- Students can identify the key elements of the scientific method (hypotheses, tests, observations, conclusions/interpretation of observations) in popular accounts of scientific research in magazines, newspapers, journals