CoSM Class Syllabus / Policy
2018 / Spring Semester
GOL 350.001
Introductory Geology

Name: Dr. Mindy Faulkner
Department: Geology
Email: mgshaw@sfasu.edu
Phone: 936-468-2236
Office: E.L. Miller Science, Room 310
Office Hours: T 1-5 p.m.; W 1-4 p.m.; R 9-12

Class meeting time and place: W: 6:45 – 9:15; Miller Science, Room 333

Please feel free to stop by any time to ask questions, discuss any problems you may be having with the material or to help facilitate further understanding. If these hours conflict with your schedule, please call or email to make an appointment.

Text and Materials: n/a

Course Description:
Environmental Geology (GOL 350) – Three semester hours lecture per week. Study of geologic phenomena that are important in man’s utilization of his physical environment, including soils, land use, and geologic hazards. Prerequisite: GOL 131.

Program Learning Outcomes:
There are no specific program learning outcomes for this major addressed in this course. It is a general education core curriculum course and / or a service course.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:
The objective of Environmental Geology is to gain an understanding of the earth in relation to natural and anthropogenic processes, including global cycles, land use, and energy resources.

Student Learning Outcomes:
The student is expected to understand and apply the following concepts of environmental geology:

1. Identify and characterize global geologic cycles.
2. Identify and characterize environmental hazards and geo-environmental contamination.
3. Describe the behavior of environmental contaminants and potential remediation.
4. Identify the origin and variability of energy resources.
5. Identify the unique environmental and ecological issues associated with anthropogenic activities.

Course Requirements:
Environmental Geology (GOL 350) is designed to provide an overview of natural earth-system processes in relation to environmental process, both natural and anthropogenic. Global geo-environmental cycles, environmental contamination, and energy resources are emphasized.

Course grade will be based on group assignments, class participation, and examinations. Student learning will be evaluated through two examinations and group projects/presentations/debates.

There is no assigned text for this class but I will be posting resources during the semester for you to read. New materials will be posted by Friday of the week before our Wednesday class. You are responsible for reading, printing, and bringing any materials to our Wednesday meeting to be prepared for the group work and debates that will take place in class.
### Course Calendar:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Course overview, The Geologic Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Global cycles; Natural vs. Anthropogenic Hazards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Environmental Public Policy: Debate 1: Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Case Study: The Role of the Media; Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Climate of Change: Icehouse vs Greenhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Demographics: Land Use, Urbanization, and Populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Environmental Public Policy: Debate 2: Demographics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Case Study: Detroit; Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring Break – No class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Resources for the 21st Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Natural Resources vs. Economic Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Field Trip: Sabine Mine</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Mining and Public Lands; Debate 3: The cost of resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Case Study: Metals and Minerals; Exam 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Energy Resources for the 21st Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>Field Trip: Boral Brick, Henderson</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Anthropogenic Waste; Debate 4: Our Energy Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Final Thoughts and Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grading Policy:
Grades will be determined by your performance on the 4 exams (15% each); your participation in 4 debates (8% each) and individual presentation (8%). Total points: 60% from exams; 40% from group debates and individual presentation.

Grade Scale: >90%=A; 80-89.9%=B; 70-79.9%=C; 60-69.9%=D; <60=F

Each exam will be in two parts: a multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer exam in class (70% of exam grade) and an essay portion over the assigned case study delivered online (30% of exam grade). All work must be your own. Please cite your references at the end of the essay exam. All written materials will be submitted through the d2l website and checked for originality through the "Turn it In" application.

### Attendance Policy:
- We only meet once a week, therefore attendance is important. Success in this course will reflect the level effort you put into the course.
- We will have **two required day field trips** on Tuesday, April 3 and Tuesday, April 24. Excuse letters will be available for classes you may miss. April 3 trip will be all day, April 24 trip we should be back by early afternoon (2-3 p.m.).
- Questions are encouraged and welcome – do not hesitate to ask.
- No electronic devices are needed during lectures for this class. Ringing phones and beeping electronics disturb others in the class and interrupt lectures.
- Refrain from activities in lectures that will distract or disturb the other students in the room, because you are all paying for the class and most people want to get what they are paying for.

### Classroom Etiquette:
- Headphones, earbuds, or other auditory devices will not be allowed during lecture.
- No tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or vapor products are allowed.
Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.