GOL 471.007 – Arkansas Field Trip – Fall 2019
College of Sciences & Mathematics – Stephen F. Austin State University

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READ THIS SYLLABUS! It contains important information about the logistics (schedule, supplies, lodging, meals, etc.) for our trip. This syllabus and other course materials are available on D2L.

Field Trip: October 17 – 20, 2019 (Thursday-Sunday), Central Arkansas, Hot Springs area

Class Meeting: We will have an initial class meeting on Monday, September 16th, 2019 to check roll, answer questions about the course, discuss field trip protocol, and talk about supplies and equipment you will need. This meeting will be held in Miller Science, Room 308 at 5:00 p.m.

Course Overview: Two credit hours for a weekend of camping and exploring the geologic resources in the beautiful Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas. Collect quartz crystals, fool’s gold, and rare minerals; visit mines and factories, explore Hot Springs, and learn about the Earth. We will drive around East Texas and central Arkansas to do “geology stuff” – see rocks, minerals, landforms, geologic structures, and more. At each stop, we will “lecture” about what we are seeing and help everyone to understand.

Course Schedule: We will have an initial class meeting and orientation on Monday, September 16 (see above). The field trip will take place Thursday, October 17 through Sunday, October 20, 2019. Final field reports will be due on Friday, November 1, 2019 at 11:59 PM. There will be no class meetings after we return.

Field Work: During the field trip, you are expected to take notes, complete the course packet (to be provided) as directed, photograph field trip stops and samples, and participate in course activities (e.g., sample collection). For this work, you will need a notebook, clipboard (or other writing surface), pencil, eraser, pencil sharpener (if necessary), and a digital camera or smartphone. You will also want to have some baggies and a Sharpie to save any samples you collect.

Field Report: After completion of the field trip you will complete a field report, which will take the form of a set of PowerPoint slides. For each field trip stop you will create two slides: 1) A slide with a photograph of the stop (Geology, not people!) and a brief description of the location, and 2) A slide with a photograph of minerals or rocks from the stop and a brief description of the significance of the material in terms of the course theme (natural resources). A PowerPoint template and grading rubric are available on D2L. You will submit your field report no later than Friday, November 1, 2019 at 11:59 PM. by uploading it to the dropbox on D2L. Grades will
be based on 1) completeness of information, and 2) evidence that you UNDERSTOOD what you saw at each stop on the trip.

**Attendance**: There will be no class meetings after the first information meeting. If you miss the field trip, you will receive an F for the course.

**Final Grade**: Your final grade is based *entirely* on your final field report. Letter grades will be assigned as follows: A (90.0–100), B (80.0–89.9), C (70.0–79.9), D (60.0–69.9), F (< 60.0).

**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, 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 accommodations and/or 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/). Please be in touch with us at the beginning of the semester to discuss arrangements for accommodations.

**Academic Integrity**: 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. 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](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp). You are encouraged to ask questions and seek clarification about completing your coursework with academic integrity.

**Withheld Grades**: 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. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.
Field Trip Logistics

**Departure & Return:** Loading will start Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 6:30 a.m. at the Lot 14 parking lot behind the library. If you have a commuter parking pass, you can park in the Wilson Parking Garage adjacent to Lot 14 and leave your car there for the duration of the field trip. If you do not wish to leave your car on campus, please make arrangements to be dropped off at Lot 14. We will leave Lot 14 promptly at 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning. We will return at approximately 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 20, 2019. *If you miss the field trip, you will receive an “F” for the course.*

**Materials & Supplies:** This is a camping trip, and you will need clothing and supplies to protect yourself from the elements. Wear all-weather, multilayered clothes and comfortable walking shoes. Moderate sized (2-4 person) dome tents with rain flies hold up best to rain, wind, and cold. Very large tents take up lots of space and can be difficult to set up and keep up in extreme conditions. You may be able to rent camping gear from Campus Recreation. Check well in advance if you are interested in this (936-468-6055; http://www.sfasu.edu/campusrec/217.asp).

**Camping Supplies:**
- Tent with rain fly
- Ground tarp (for under tent)
- Sleeping bag / bedding
- Cot or air mattress (plus pump)
- Pillow
- Flashlight/Lantern/Headlamp
- Camp chair (*optional*)

**Personal Supplies:**
- Layered clothing
- Rain coat or poncho
- Sneakers or sturdy shoes
- Rain boots or water shoes for wading
- Hat, sunglasses, sunscreen
- Personal toiletries, towel
- Insect repellant
- Money for meals, snacks, drinks
- Phone charging equipment (car chargers work best)
- Water bottle
- Non-perishable snacks (no coolers)

**Field Supplies:**
- Back pack
- Camera, smart phone, disposable camera
- Pencils, erasers, sharpeners
- Clip board / writing surface
- Geologic hammer (*optional*)
- Small shovel or spade (*optional*)
- Gloves (*optional*)
- Baggies (*for samples*)
- Sharpies (*for samples*)
**Accommodations:** We will most likely stay at Denby Point Campground at Lake Ouachita by Hot Springs. All trip participants must stay at the designated campsites and adhere to Park rules. Campsites must be kept and left clean, park quiet hours must be observed.

**Safety:** Please be careful when visiting quarries, hitting rocks, and moving in uneven terrain. All quarry rules must be observed. Safety hard hats and glasses will be provided for quarry visits and must be worn at all times. Watch for traffic and vehicles on the roads and in the quarries. You must have on long pants and closed-toed shoes to enter any of the industrial complexes, quarries, or mines.

**Travel:** We will travel in SFA vans rented from the University for this trip. Private vehicles are not allowed. There will be about eight passengers per vehicle, plus luggage and gear, plus some personal rocks when returning. Choose your van and with whom you like to travel. Do not load higher than the top of the back seat. Rocks and personal bags will go on the rear floor and underneath the seats. Department graduate teaching assistants will be the drivers; please follow their instructions for a safe trip.

**Food:** We will stop for supplies, snacks, and drinks each morning. Breakfast and lunch will be brief stops in an eatery, fast food, or other restaurant. In the evening, restaurants will be visited as mini groups before a late return to camp. Because of our busy schedules and the distance to the nearest grocery store from our campground, *meals will not be prepared at camp*.

**Budget:** Budget wisely for 12 meals and assorted snacks and supplies on the road. We will do our best to provide you with reasonable and economical food options, but dining out can add up quickly and our options will sometimes be limited. You may wish to pack easy, non-perishable snacks (granola bars, protein bars, crackers, trail mix, etc.) to minimize your purchases.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Tobacco included):** University, Texas, and Arkansas State laws will be observed which either prohibit their use as such or during any university function. Specifically: There will be no consumption in the vans or consumption during the daytime work hours. Dinner time is private time, and if you are of legal age you may enjoy the beverage of your choice with dinner. A non-smoking policy will be in effect during the daytime trips. University rules prohibit the use of alcohol during any University function and alcohol cannot be transported in University vans. The local police will be notified by campground managers if any alcohol related disturbances occur. Offending students will be reported to the Dean of Students and may be arrested by the local police. Bottom line: absolutely no alcohol in the campground.

If you are found to have alcohol in the University vans or at the campground, you will be expelled from the course, receive an “F” and will be sent home at your own expense.
Field Trip Schedule & Topics*

Thursday, October 17, 2019
- Depart Lot 14 @ 7:00 a.m., Nacogdoches, TX
- Coal Mine (fossil fuels, energy resources, mining, sedimentary processes, depositional environment)
- Breakfast in Henderson, TX
- Tour of Boral Brick Factory, Henderson, TX (clay minerals, brick making, natural resources)
- Arkansas Visitor Center (physiographic regions of Arkansas)
- Setting up camp, Denby Point Campground
- Dinner in Hot Springs, AR

Friday, October 18, 2019
- Depart Campground @ 8:00 a.m.
- Breakfast in Malvern, AR
- Tour of Granite Mountain Quarry (minerals, igneous rocks, natural resources, mining practices, aggregate)
- Tour of Bauxite Mine, Bauxite, AR (aluminum ores, fracking sand, reclamation, laterite soils)
- Tour of Blakely Dam, Hot Springs, AR (hydropower, dams, structural geology, Ouachita orogeny)
- Dinner in Hot Springs, AR
- Camping, Denby Point Campground

Saturday, October 19, 2019
- Depart Campground @ 8:00 a.m.
- Breakfast in Malvern, AR
- Carbonatite, Magnet Cove, AR (igneous Rocks, mineral identification, origin of rocks)
- Barite Mine, Magnet Cove, AR (Industrial minerals, density, remediation)
- Brookite Stop, Magnet Cove, AR (titanium ore, mineralogy)
- Panning for Pyrite, Cove Creek, Magnet Cove, AR (weathering, erosion, stream processes, environmental geochemistry)
- Hot Springs Tower, Hot Springs, AR (Ouachita orogeny, topography, structural geology)
- Arkansas Novaculite, Hot Springs, AR (sedimentary rocks, structural geology, landscape evolution)
- Hydrothermal Springs, Hot Springs, AR (groundwater recharge, natural resources, tufa deposits)
- Dinner in Hot Springs, AR
- Camping, Denby Point Campground

Sunday, October 20, 2019
- Pack tents and depart Campground @ 8:00 a.m.
- Quartz Mine, Hot Springs Village, AR (hydrothermal mineralization, mineralogy, industrial minerals)
- Lunch in Hot Springs Village, AR
- 2:00 p.m. Depart Hot Springs Village, AR and return to Nacogdoches

*Schedule is tentative and subject to change due to timing, weather, etc.