CoSM Class Syllabus / Policy

2021 / Fall Semester
GEOL 1103.401 Laboratory
Introductory Geology

Name: Mr. Wesley Turner
Department: Geology
Email: turnerwl@sfasu.edu
Phone: 936-468-1049
Office: E.L. Miller Science, Room 307
Office Hours: By Student Appointment over Zoom; email through MySFA or D2L to schedule

Class meeting time and place: Since this class is taken online, class meeting times are variable.

Please feel free to contact me or your TA any time to ask questions, discuss any problems you may be having with the material or to help facilitate further understanding.

Course Description:
Introductory Geology Laboratory (GEOL 1103L) – One semester hour, two hours laboratory per week. Designed for the student with no geology background. Introduction to the study of minerals, rocks, and the processes that modify and shape the surface features of the Earth. Focus on energy, mineral and water resources; volcanism; and other practical aspects of geology. Required lab fee. No prerequisites.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes for Lecture and Lab:
After successful completion of this course students will be able to:
SLO 1. Demonstrate an understanding of fundamental geologic concepts as it relates to Earth processes and landscape evolution through geologic time.
SLO 2. Use quantitative reasoning to interpret geologic data (tables, figures, graphs) from primary research, data assimilation and models to assess the differences in competing scientific theories associated with rock formation.
SLO 3. Demonstrate knowledge on the interdependence of science and technology and the influences geologic reasoning associated with identifiable and testable hypotheses of geologic processes.
SLO 4. Critically assess the interrelationships between geologic phenomena and communicate the resulting conclusions in visual and written formats.
SLO 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the skills and attitudes necessary for effective teamwork in collaborative learning activities.

General Education Core Curriculum
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

By enrolling in GEOL 1103 you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Physical and Life Sciences Core Curriculum requirement. The chart below indicates: (a) The core objectives that
are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), (b) How the required core objectives will be addressed.

Core Curriculum Objective Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information</td>
<td>Identification and evaluation of unknown rock and mineral samples through pre-defined methods; analysis of trends and projection of future events concerning climate and resource usage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication</td>
<td>Interpretation of topographic maps and potential flooding hazards and communicate flood risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions</td>
<td>Interpretation of resource usage data and impact on society; analysis of topographic map data;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal</td>
<td>Group identification of unknown rock and mineral samples, analysis of topographic maps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Text and Materials:
*Introductory Geology Laboratory Manual* (available in all SFA bookstores)

The lab manual is **required** and will be needed the first day of lab activities, the week of **August 30th**.

A new lab manual must be purchased from the bookstores. Each new lab manual contains perforated quiz pages that will be turned in to get credit for the weekly in-class lab quizzes.

Course Requirements:
This class is a 1-credit hour course and has a weekly requisite lab where you will gain hands-on experience with geologic materials such as mineral and rocks, analyze geologic data, and interpret geologic landforms through an understanding of topographic maps. You will receive a separate grade for the laboratory section of the course, assigned by the laboratory coordinator.

Attendance Policy:
Attendance is mandatory for understanding the material and participating in class. Opportunities for make-up exercises/exams must be approved by the Laboratory Coordinator. The following constitutes an excused absence:

- Illness: note from doctor for day of the lab.
- Death in Family: must be documented by obituary clipping from newspaper or funeral home.
- Jury Duty: must be documented by note from judge or other court official.
- School Function: name must appear in Faculty Bulletin or note must be sent from instructor, coach, etc.

For excused absences, makeup material time and date should be discussed with the lab coordinator. For materials missed without an excused absence, materials must be made up within two weeks of the original due date. For all missed material, contact the lab coordinator for makeups.

You are expected to come to lab, to be on time, and to stay for the duration of the lab. Whenever it is possible, arrangements should be made before the lab time so that provisions can be made.

If you become ill or have a restroom emergency during the lab period, please excuse yourself quietly. If you need to study for another class or read the paper, the library is available. If you need to nap, that is best done at home – not in the classroom. If you are sleeping or reading other material, you cannot be participating and I will assume you to be absent in mind and spirit, if not in body, for the day. Use your time wisely and learn how to plan ahead.

**Laboratory Exercises:**
Weekly laboratory exercises will reinforce lecture material with practical exercises designed to enhance specific General Education Core Curriculum Objectives. Each week, students will be introduced to these core objectives in the form of classroom exercises and electronic assignments delivered through the SFA platform Desire2Learn (d2l). Students will be responsible for accessing and completing pertinent materials from d2l.

Each week, the student will be responsible for:

1. Required reading of the upcoming chapter in the lab book to help prepare for the laboratory exercises.
2. A weekly requisite electronic pre-quiz administered through d2l before the laboratory meeting to ensure the student is prepared for the laboratory exercises.
3. Laboratory exercises completed in class. During the laboratory exercises, students will work individually and in teams to complete the in-class assignments.
4. A weekly in-class quiz to test comprehension of the laboratory exercises.
5. A weekly requisite electronic post-quiz administered through d2l after the laboratory meeting to ensure retention of the material.

The electronic quizzes will help to prepare you for the lab exercises assigned the following week and reinforce the material covered in the laboratory exercises. The pre-quizzes will cover selected reading material assigned, the post-quizzes will help students synthesize the material and retain the information. All quizzes, both electronic and in-class, should be taken individually. The electronic quizzes will open on Friday at 12:00 a.m. and remain available until Monday at 12 midnight of the following week.

**Grading Policy**
Your laboratory grade will consist of the following:
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- Weekly laboratory exercises (10 exercises @ 10 points each) 90
- Weekly Mineral/Rock Worksheets (5 worksheets @ 5 points each) 25
- Weekly electronic pre-quizzes (10 quizzes @ 5 points each) 50
- Weekly electronic post-quizzes (8 quizzes @ 5 points each) 40
- Online exams (Midterm and Final Exam, 25 points each) 50
- In-class exams (Midterm and Final Exam, 100 points each) 200

Total Points 455

Grades for laboratory classroom activities, exams, and electronic assignments will be delivered through d2l.

You will receive a separate grade for your laboratory performance. Your final grade for the laboratory section of the course will be assigned by the Laboratory Coordinator and posted to the University grading system at the appropriate time. Weekly lab grades will be posted using Desire2Learn (d2l), which can be accessed through https://d2l.sfasu.edu. You may log in using your mySFA username and password.

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.

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.

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
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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/.

**First Aid Information:**
Dilute hydrochloric acid (10%) will be used in this lab to assist in mineral identification.

**FIRST AID:**
- **EYE CONTACT:** If eye contact occurs, flush eyes with plenty of running water and continue for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation persists.
- **SKIN CONTACT:** Flush affected skin area with water. Wash with soap and water. If irritation occurs, consult a physician.

**Mental Health Resources**
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

**SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic:**
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Helpful Numbers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Information</td>
<td>468-4696</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Help Desk</td>
<td>468-4357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire2Learn Help</td>
<td>468-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology Department</td>
<td>468-3701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Coordinator</td>
<td>468-2236</td>
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<td><strong>Emergency Numbers:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Police</td>
<td>468-2608</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>911</td>
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<tr>
<td>SFA Health Clinic</td>
<td>468-4008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poison Control Center</td>
<td>800-222-1222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Dates</td>
<td>Chapter/Module</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1: Earth Materials</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Getting Started Pre-Lab Material</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/23 - 8/27</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 1: Intro to Minerals and Physical Properties</td>
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<td>8/30 - 9/3</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 2: Common Minerals and Their Uses</td>
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<td>9/6 - 9/10</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 3: Igneous Rocks</td>
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<td>9/13 - 9/17</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 4: Sediments and Erosion</td>
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<td>9/20 - 9/24</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 5: Sedimentary Rocks</td>
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<td>9/27 - 10/1</td>
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| Week 7 | 10/4 - 10/8 | Chapter 6: Metamorphic Rocks | Pre-Quiz 6 Due 10/4 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Quiz 6 and Metamorphic Rock Worksheet due  
10/7 @ 11:59 PM  
Online Midterm Exam Opens 10/8 |
|--------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Week 8 | 10/11 - 10/15 | Midterm Exam | Online Midterm Exam Due 10/11 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Midterm due 10/14 @ 11:59 PM  
Pre-Quiz 7 Opens 10/15 |

**Unit 2: Topographic and Geologic Mapping**

| Week 9 | 10/18 - 10/22 | Chapter 7: Topographic Maps | Pre-Quiz 7 Due 10/18 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Quiz 7 due 10/21 @ 11:59 PM  
Post-Quiz 7 and Pre-Quiz 8 Opens 10/22 |
|--------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 10 | 10/25 - 10/29 | Chapter 8: Hydrology | Post-Quiz 7 and Pre-Quiz 8 Due 10/25 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Quiz 8 due 10/28 @ 11:59 PM  
Post-Quiz 8 and Pre-Quiz 9 Opens 10/29 |
| Week 11 | 11/1 - 11/5 | Chapter 10: Intro to Geologic Structures | Post-Quiz 8 and Pre-Quiz 10 Due 11/1 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Quiz 10 due 11/4 @ 11:59 PM  
Post-Quiz 10 and Pre-Quiz 11 Opens 11/5 |
| Week 12 | 11/8 - 11/12 | Chapter 11: Geologic Faults and Cross-sections | Post-Quiz 10 and Pre-Quiz 11 Due 11/8 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Quiz 11 due 11/11 @ 11:59 PM  
Online Final Exam Opens 11/12 |
<p>| Week 13 | 11/15 - 11/19 | Makeup Week | No new material this week |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Thanksgiving Break - No Labs</th>
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<td>11/22 - 11/26</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 15</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
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| 11/29 - 12/3 | Online Final Exam Due 11/29 @ 11:59 PM  
In-Class Final Exam due 12/2 @ 11:59 PM |

**Dates and times/assignments are subject to change**