Course Description:
Undergraduate Independent Study (GEOL4176) - Three semester hours. This is an independent study in a special topic. Student will write a report on a topic of choice after gathering and synthesizing data. Student will present their work at a conference, either here on campus or another professional conference.

Student Learning Outcomes
After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Write a scientific report.
- Understand the nucleation of methan hydrates.
- Present work in a scientific manner to a general audience.

Course Text
No text is required.

Course Requirements
This course requires a report on the data acquired and interpretation.

Attendance Policy
Attendance in mandatory, and necessary in order to succeed in class. In-class assignments can only be made up with an excused and documented absence. Project assignments need to be turned in on their due date, and will have 10% deducted for every day late. After 5 days late, they will no longer be accepted. To make-up an exam, only excused absences will be accepted (doctor’s note, sporting event, etc., with proper documentation). We will arrange a time and place for the make-up exam, which will be a different exam than the one given in class.

Program Learning Outcomes
There are no specific program learning outcomes for this major addressed in this course, as it is a general education core curriculum course and/or a service course.
COVID-19 MASK POLICY  Masks (cloth face coverings) are encouraged in the classroom. They are to be worn over the nose and mouth, and appropriate physical distancing is encouraged.

Academic Integrity (§ 4.1)
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/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy §5.5)
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. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

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/.
SFASU values students' mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFASU provides a variety of resources to support student's 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