

Earth Materials Lab - GLY 210L - Syllabus

Spring 2016 Section: 202 CRN: 3436

Lab Time: Tuesday 3-4:50pm - Science 167
1 credit

Professor: Dr. Mitchell Scharman
Phone: (304) 696-5434

Office: Science 163
Email: scharman@marshall.edu

Office Hours: MW noon-1pm; T-Th 9-10:30am; F 9-10am
Please do not stop by in the hour before any scheduled class

Required Lab Manual: *Earth Materials: A Laboratory Manual for Physical Geology and General Geology*, 5th ed., by Bonnet et al. (2014)

Required materials: pencil (no pens), notebook

Recommended: non-cellphone calculator (for topographic maps and specific gravity labs)

Course Description: An introductory laboratory to earth materials as applied to the identification, classification, recovery, and uses of earth resources. During the duration of this course, each student should:

- Acquire hands-on experience with description and identification of minerals, rocks, and fossils, and measurement of mineral and rock properties.
- Develop the ability to read topographic maps, recognize landforms, use coordinate systems and map scales, determine slope and other landform properties, and construct basic cross-sections.
- Develop an understanding of relationships between geologic processes and the earth materials produced.

Course Assessment:

Quizzes: 35%

Assignments/Pre-lab Questions: 25%

Lab Attendance: 20%

Participation: 20%

Total: 100%

Grading Scale:

A - 90-100%; B - 80-89%;

C - 70-79%; D - 60-69%

F - 0-59%

No curve will be applied to any portion of your grade for the course. You are expected to keep track of your own grade as the course progresses with the above grading scheme. You should possess the basic algebraic knowledge to calculate a current grade as assignments and quizzes are returned. Additionally, you can ask me about your grade at any point in the semester.

Pre-lab Questions

You are expected to read each chapter prior to when the topic is discussed in the lab. With each week's reading assignments is a pre-lab questionnaire, designed to prepare you for basic concepts associated with the week's lab. These are assigned and submitted through Blackboard. Pre-lab questions and other assignments are always due by the start of lab on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted.

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Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation will be recorded for each lab period, except on quiz days.

- Attendance portion of the lab grade will be based on your weekly attendance in lab. Each unexcused absence will subtract from the attendance portion of your grade.
- Lab participation is based on active involvement in the lab work. Texting, sleeping, other forms of inattentiveness (e.g. cell phone use), relying heavily on a partner to do the work, or forgetting your lab manual are examples of actions that will result in no credit for weekly lab participation grade.
- Copying of others' work will also affect the lab participation and assignments grade. Additionally, this will be treated as academic dishonesty.

If you miss a lab, you must make up the work before coming to the next session. Make-up quizzes and time extensions for assignments will only be given for university excused absences with proper documentation, which include: serious medical reasons, legal reasons, military obligations, or university activities excused by the academic deans.

If you miss less than 3 consecutive hours of the course, you must speak with me about any make-up work. Note, in this case, it is up to your professor to determine if your absence is considered an official university excused absence. I must receive proper notification of any absence that is included as a university excused absence.

If you miss 3 consecutive hours or more of class, you must speak with the Dean of Student Affairs Office.

Notice of an excused absence must be received by the instructor through the Dean of Student Affairs office prior to completing the make up work (see the MU Undergraduate Catalog for more information). There will be no make-up quizzes/assignments without an excused absence from the Dean's office. All excused assignments and make-up quizzes must be completed prior to taking Quiz #5.

Note about Personal Conduct

Everyone in the course is expected to act in a professional and courteous manner. Any disruptive or offensive behavior - especially that directed at anyone else in the class - will not be tolerated. Any violation will be met with a requirement to drop the course and forfeit any associated grades. All cell phones must be turned off, put away, and remain away, for the duration of each class period. It is extremely unprofessional, as well as a waste of the professor's and fellow student's time, if you are looking at a cell phone while a conversation/lecture/lab is in progress. Having a cell phone out during a quiz is considered cheating, and participation points will be lost if you have a phone out during regular lab time.

Finally, we will only respond to emails that are written with at least a basic level of professionalism and courtesy.

By your continued enrollment in this course, you agree with the policies in this syllabus and to the University Policies listed below:

Academic Dishonesty; Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates; Computing Services Acceptable Use; Inclement Weather; Dead Week; Students with Disabilities; Academic Forgiveness; Academic Probation and Suspension; Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students; Affirmative Action; Sexual Harassment

The full text of each policy is available at: <http://muwww-new.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies>

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Lab Schedule:

Day	Topic	Reading
Jan. 12	Topographic Maps	Chapter 1, Exercise 1
Jan. 19	Topographic Maps; Pre-lab 1 due; Quiz 1 - Syllabus	Chapter 1, Exercise 2
Jan. 26	Topographic Maps; Pre-lab 2 due	Chapter 1, Exercise 3
Feb. 2	Quiz 2 - Topographic Maps	
Feb. 9	Minerals; Pre-lab 3 due	Chapter 2
Feb. 16	Minerals; Pre-lab 4 due	Chapter 2
Feb. 23	Minerals/Specific Gravity; Pre-lab 5 due	Appendix 2
Mar. 1	Quiz 3 - Minerals	
Mar. 8	Igneous Rocks; Pre-lab 6 due	Chapter 3
Mar. 15	Sedimentary Rocks; Pre-lab 7 due	Chapter 4
Mar. 22	Spring Break - No Class	
Mar. 29	Metamorphic Rocks; Pre-lab 8 due	Chapter 5
Apr. 5	Quiz 4 - Rock ID	
Apr. 12	Fossils; Pre-lab 9	Chapter 6
Apr. 19	Fossil ID; No Pre-lab	Chapter 6
Apr. 26	Quiz 5 - Fossil ID	

Please note that this schedule is tentative and will be updated throughout the semester as needed in the event a lab period is lost due to unforeseen circumstances.

Cancellation of classes due to winter weather can quickly force this schedule to change. In the event the university is cancelled due to such winter weather on a quiz day, the quiz will be postponed to the following class period, and a new schedule will be determined for the rest of the semester.