

**Class Meets:** MWF, 10:00-10:50am, S 276

**Text:** Essentials of Geology, Lutgens, Tarbuck & Tarsa [LTT], 11<sup>th</sup> edition (2011)

**Instructor:** William (Bill) Niemann, P.G., Ph.D.

Office: 171 Science Building, Phone: 696-6721 (W), 736-2002 (H)

Office Hours:

- MWF: 11:00-11:30am / M 2:00-4:00pm / T 2:00-4:00pm
- Other times: by chance or appointment
- Not a good time: immediately before class

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**web:** <http://www.science.marshall.edu/niemann/>

### **Course Description**

- General Geology: 3 credit hours, 150 minutes, per week.
- A beginning level geology course which surveys elements of earth materials, processes, structures, and history.
- The course is designed primarily for the non-science major.
- Co-requisite (depending on major): 210L (Earth Materials Lab).

### **My Teaching Philosophy:**

- I teach because I love learning and because I enjoy working with students; otherwise I wouldn't be here.
- I will work hard to help you learn and enjoy the class. The rest is up to you.
- I don't "give" grades, I merely record the grades you earn.

### **Assessment of Learning and Incentives**

- Exams (75% of final grade)
  - Less than three unexcused absences will result in the highest exam score counting 35% and lowest 15%.
  - More than three unexcused absences will result in exams counting 25% each.
- Quizzes (25% of final grade)
  - Includes both group quizzes in class and individual quizzes to be submitted electronically.
  - Individual quizzes are due to the instructor via e-mail by 2:00am on the due date.

## **Grading Policy**

The following scale will be used for mid-term and final grades. Note that numerical scores and not letter grades are assigned for all individual exams and quizzes.

<u>Final Average (%)</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Final Average (%)</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Final Average (%)</u>	<u>Grade</u>
90-100	A	80-89	B	70-79	C
60-69	D	0-59	F		

- ***Note that the some or all of the above grade boundaries may be adjusted downward based on overall class performance. If such an adjustment is made, it will benefit students “on the bubble.” In no case will the boundaries be adjusted upward.*** Also to benefit students, extra credit points will be added to students' point totals after grade boundaries are drawn. In this way extra credit is used to reward students who earn extra points but not to punish those students who don't.

## **Attendance Policy**

- Because attendance affects your grade, a sign-in list will be circulated at the beginning of each class. It is the responsibility of each student to sign the list, and if late to notify the instructor at the end of the lecture. Failure to do so may result in an official absence for that lecture. Arriving late or leaving lecture early may reduce or void credit for attendance for that day.
- Absences may be excused for serious medical or legal reasons, military obligation, or university activities excused by the academic deans. **Notice of an excused absence must be received by the instructor through the office of the Dean of Student Affairs** (see pages 81-83 of 2011-2012 MU Undergraduate Catalog). The current Dean of Students is Steve Hensley, located on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center (2W38), 304-696-6423 or [hensley@marshall.edu](mailto:hensley@marshall.edu).

## **University-wide policies**

- University policies regarding inclement weather, academic dishonesty, etc. also apply to this class and can be viewed at [http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page\\_id=802](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802).

## **Extra Credit**

- Extra credit is awarded only for specific activities, e.g., field trips and videos.
- Extra credit is worth a maximum of approximately 5% of the total points for the course (i.e., ½ letter grade).
- Extra credit is weighted more for students with good attendance.
- Details on extra credit for this course are covered in a separate document posted on the class webpage.

## **GLY 110-201 – Spring 2012 -- Course Schedule**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Reading (LTT, 11<sup>th</sup> ed.)</u></b>
1	Jan 9/11/13	Introduction / Major Themes	Ch1: 1-35
2	Jan 16: MLK Day Jan 18/20	Plate Tectonics	Ch 15: 360-391
3	Jan 23/25/27	Minerals	Ch 2: 36-61
4	Jan 30, Feb 1/3	Igneous Rocks	Ch 3: 62-75
5	Feb 6: No class Feb 8/10	Igneous Rocks (cont.)	Ch 3: 76-89
6	Feb. 13/15/17	EXAM 1 (M Feb 13) Volcanic Rocks	review: Ch 1-3, 15
7	Feb 20/22/24	Volcanic Rocks	Ch 4: 90-120
8	Feb 27/29/Mar 2	Weathering & Soils	Ch 5: 122-137, 140-146
9	Mar 5/7/9	Sedimentary Rocks	Ch 6: 148-175
10	Mar 12/14/16	Geologic Time	Ch 18: 436-459 (11 <sup>th</sup> )
	Mar 19-23	Spring break	Have a nice break !

11	Mar 26/28/30	Geologic Time (cont.) <b>EXAM 2 (F Mar 30)</b>	review: Ch 4-6, 18
12	Apr 2/6 Apr 4: No Class	Earthquakes & Earth's Interior	Ch 14: 334-359
13	Apr 9/11/13	Water on Earth	Ch 9: 214-237
14	Apr 16/18/20	Groundwater	Ch 10: 238-259
15	Apr 23/25/27	Climate Change	Ch 20: 492-523
<b>FINALS WEEK</b>	Apr 30 10:15am	<b>EXAM 3</b>	review: Ch 9-10, 14, 20

Useful Websites: **Information about Careers in Geology/Geoscience**

[www.aqiweb.org](http://www.aqiweb.org)   [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)   [www.geosociety.org](http://www.geosociety.org)