



WBUonline  
School of Mathematics and Sciences

**WAYLAND MISSION STATEMENT:** *Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning, and service to God and humankind.*

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** GEOL 1301 - Physical Geology

**TERM:** Spring 2 Term August 12<sup>th</sup> – October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

**INSTRUCTOR:** Hunter Green

Email: hunter.green@wayland.wbu.edu

Office Hours, Building, and Location: Online (Email checked during regular business hours)

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** An introduction to rock and mineral materials and the dynamic processes responsible for shaping Earth and providing our natural resources, such as plate tectonics, volcanism, and various surficial processes.

**PREREQUISITES:** None.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIALS:** *Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology, 13<sup>th</sup> ed.* (ISBN 13: 978-0-13-519112-5). NOTE: eTextbook cost is included upon registration through the WBU Automatic eBook program. \*In addition to the textbook, online access to MasteringGeology is **required to complete class activities**. This access is included in the Automatic eBook program.

**IMPORTANT:** As an 8-week term, the course is very fast-paced, so it is imperative to have all course materials the first week of class!

**COMPUTER/SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:** Software required includes an internet browser Firefox, Safari, Chrome, or Edge (check version compatibility on Blackboard login page- "Test Your Browser"), JAVA, and a current version of Microsoft Word. A high-speed internet connection is *highly recommended* due to some large file sizes and streaming media. The use of mobile devices (i.e., cell phones or tablets) may not work for some activities.

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** As an online course, it is imperative that you have reliable access to the internet. Excuses for assignments being late due to internet reliability issues or computer failure will not be accepted. **The best way to avoid problems is to get assignments done early so that if problems should arise, you can effectively deal with them prior to deadlines.**

The use of a Wayland Baptist University email account is **mandatory** for all correspondence in this course– this is the official means of communication between faculty and students. If you require assistance accessing your account, there is a link under "Web Resources." You can also contact the IT department at itsupport@wbu.edu. Email from any other email account may not receive a response.

**OUTCOME COMPETENCIES:** Upon completion of the course the student will

- Understand current theories of the origin of the solar system and planetary differentiation
- Be able to identify common rocks and minerals
- Have knowledge of the current state of Plate Tectonics theory
- Understand major concepts used in the study of the history of the earth
- Have knowledge of surface and subsurface geologic processes (e.g., volcanism, earthquakes)
- Be able to relate these processes to a plate tectonics reference frame

**ATTENDANCE-TIME COMMITMENT:** The University expects students to make class attendance a priority. Attendance in the context of a Virtual Campus course implies logging into the Blackboard system and checking for announcements, viewing lecture materials, working on assignments, etc., on a regular basis, preferably twice per week **at a minimum.**

This is a three-hour course. In a traditional classroom setting, this class would meet for about 3 hours per week. A good rule of thumb is that students should reserve AT LEAST twice as many hours outside of class as they spend in class to review material and complete assignments. While online students have the benefit of flexibility in scheduling when they review lectures and course materials, the content of this course is NOT reduced from the traditional format. It will require AT LEAST the same level of effort as the face-to-face version of the course! Therefore, to succeed in this course, students should be prepared to invest a **MINIMUM of 12 HOURS per week**, with additional effort required for assignments or to prepare for exams.

The course is not designed as a self-paced course and will be very difficult if the student falls behind.

NOTE: If any student expects special consideration because of family, job requirements, and/or taking other classes, please do not enroll in this course. To remain fair to everyone, expectations are the same for all students. It is up to each student to decide prior to enrolling if they will have adequate time to commit to the course. No excuses because of other classes or commitments will be accepted for a student's failure to comply with these requirements.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero-tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy, as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported, and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:** Students will be evaluated by examinations, class assignments, etc., as described below.

Homework Assignments: All assignments are due no later than the date AND time listed on the posted DUE DATES document. Time is based on Plainview time (Central Time Zone U.S.). Late assignments are graded as 0\*. Students should allow *at least* 2 hours per week to complete assignment activities. In order to pass the course, a passing grade must be earned on at least 50% of assignments. There will be 8 weekly assignments posted. Students are expected to complete all 8 assignments for regular credit, with the lowest assignment dropped at the end of the course.

Online Forums/Participation Assignments: Several questions/discussion topics will be posted during the term. Students are expected to respond to these postings *and* each other's responses. The topics may be current events, new discoveries, or any variety of Earth science-related issues. Student responses may require additional reading and extensive thought or ask for an opinion. Additionally, extra credit opportunities will become available throughout the term as needed.

Exams: There will be a total of 4 exams during the semester. The lowest score of one of the first 3 exams will be automatically dropped (the 4<sup>th</sup>/final exam score cannot be dropped). All tests are to be completed online and have specific dates for completion (to be announced). Tests not completed by that date will be graded as zero. All exams are open-book. However, exams are designed to test a student's knowledge of the material and not their ability to look up questions. All exams are set to be completed within a specific amount of time. There is ample time to complete each exam provided adequate preparation. There will not be enough time to complete these exams if a student attempts to look up the majority of questions. Exceeding the time limit will result in a deduction of points.

NOTE: *Due to university policy (stated in the student handbook), the final exam CANNOT be administered earlier than the posted dates.* The final will *only* be available Tuesday through Saturday, the final week of the term.

Grading Criteria: University Grading System: A=90-100, B=80-89, C =70-79, D=60-69, F=below 60.

The final class grade is based on the average grades that are earned as listed below.

		Points
Pearson Assignments	8 total assignments	200
Participation	4 discussion board topics	100
Exams	3 total exams (best 2 of 3)	300
<u>Final Exam**</u>		<u>200</u>
Total		800

**Students who do not participate in discussions or pass at least half of the homework assignments will automatically fail the course. Completion of all assignments, including extra credit, will result in additional points being awarded to your overall grade. Additional extra credit will be provided throughout the semester.**

**GRADE APPEAL STATEMENT:** *Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.*

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**COURSE SCHEDULE OUTLINE:** (refer to the “Due Dates” document posted on Blackboard for the specific dates that all coursework will be available and the deadline for submission).

<b><i>Week #:</i></b>	<b><i>Subject</i></b>	<b><i>Chapters Covered</i></b>
1	Introduction to Geology, Matter and Minerals	1, 3
2	Igneous Rocks and intrusive Activity, Volcanoes and Volcanic Hazards	4, 5
3	Weathering, Sedimentary Rocks	6, 7
4	Metamorphism & Metamorphic Rocks, Geologic Time	8, 9
5	Crustal Deformation, Earthquakes and Earthquake Hazards	10, 11
6	Earth’s Interior, Origin and Evolution of the Ocean Floor	12, 13
7	Plate Tectonics, Mountain Building	2, 14
8	Running Water, Groundwater	16, 17

EXAM 1 covers weeks 1-2

EXAM 2 covers weeks 3-4

EXAM 3 covers weeks 5-6

EXAM 4 (Final exam)\*\* covers *weeks* 1-8 (approximately ½ of the questions will be from weeks 7-8 with the remaining questions being comprehensive-chapters 1-17).

NOTES: The instructor expects emails with questions or other concerns about the class or any course activities.

Communication with the instructor regarding due dates should be initiated **BEFORE** items are due.

Exams, participation assignments, and homework assignments are set to close at a pre-determined time (based on Plainview-CT). **Failure to submit any coursework by the posted deadline will result in a zero.**

This outline and other syllabus items are subject to change at the university or instructor's discretion.

Exception for serious illness (hospital time) or major emergencies may be allowed only at the instructor's discretion. You may be required to furnish evidence of any extenuating circumstances. If you are military and will be going TDY during the course, you need to let me know ahead of time (verification from a commanding officer may be required).

**GEOL 1301 VC – Fall 1 2024**

**DUE DATES: Print this file and check often. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

Below is a course schedule laid out for when assignments (participation discussions, labs, and exams) are available their due date. Most coursework is **available on Monday of each week** and **due on the following Monday of each week**. Use 11:59 p.m. (Central Time-U.S.) as the cutoff time for the dates listed below (make sure that you submit your assignments based on the time zone in Plainview, TX and NOT where you live). **Remember – all late assignments – INCLUDING EXAMS are counted as "0" (unless prior arrangements are made)!!**

**NOTE:** The required first assignment, syllabus acknowledgment, and Participation 1 are due by end of day Wednesday, 06/05/2024 (instructions are listed in announcement posted first day of class). These assignments must be completed before doing other course work. This counts as attendance, and you will be dropped from the course if it is not completed.

Week	Date	Assignments
1	Monday, August 12, 2024	Participation 1, Lab 1- Available
1	Tuesday, August 13, 2024	
1	Wednesday, August 14, 2024	
1	Thursday, August 15, 2024	
1	Friday, August 16, 2024	
1	Saturday, August 17, 2024	
1	Sunday, August 18, 2024	
2	Monday, August 19, 2024	Participation 1, Lab 1 - Due; Participation 2, Lab 2 - Available
2	Tuesday, August 20, 2024	
2	Wednesday, August 21, 2024	
2	Thursday, August 22, 2024	
2	Friday, August 23, 2024	
2	Saturday, August 24, 2024	
2	Sunday, August 25, 2024	
3	Monday, August 26, 2024	Lab 2 - Due; Lab 3, Exam 1 - Available
3	Tuesday, August 27, 2024	
3	Wednesday, August 28, 2024	
3	Thursday, August 29, 2024	
3	Friday, August 30, 2024	
3	Saturday, August 31, 2024	
3	Sunday, September 1, 2024	
4	Monday, September 2, 2024	Participation 2, Lab 3, Exam 1 - Due; Participation 3, Lab 4 - Available
4	Tuesday, September 3, 2024	
4	Wednesday, September 4, 2024	
4	Thursday, September 5, 2024	
4	Friday, September 6, 2024	
4	Saturday, September 7, 2024	
4	Sunday, September 8, 2024	
5	Monday, September 9, 2024	Lab 4 - Due; Exam 2, Lab 5 - Available
5	Tuesday, September 10, 2024	
5	Wednesday, September 11, 2024	
5	Thursday, September 12, 2024	
5	Friday, September 13, 2024	
5	Saturday, September 14, 2024	
5	Sunday, September 15, 2024	
6	Monday, September 16, 2024	Participation 3, Exam 2, Lab 5 - Due; Participation 4, Lab 6 - Available
6	Tuesday, September 17, 2024	
6	Wednesday, September 18, 2024	
6	Thursday, September 19, 2024	
6	Friday, September 20, 2024	
6	Saturday, September 21, 2024	
6	Sunday, September 22, 2024	
7	Monday, September 23, 2024	Lab 6 - Due; Exam 3, Lab 7 - Available
7	Tuesday, September 24, 2024	
7	Wednesday, September 25, 2024	
7	Thursday, September 26, 2024	
7	Friday, September 27, 2024	
7	Saturday, September 28, 2024	
7	Sunday, September 29, 2024	
8	Monday, September 30, 2024	Participation 4, Exam 3, Lab 7 - Due; Final Exam, Lab 8 - Available
8	Tuesday, October 1, 2024	
8	Wednesday, October 2, 2024	
8	Thursday, October 3, 2024	
8	Friday, October 4, 2024	
8	Saturday, October 5, 2024	Final Exam, Lab 8 - Due
8	Sunday, October 6, 2024	