

PHYSICAL GEOLOGY
Geology 103-201– Spring 2024



Instructor: Edward Medeiros

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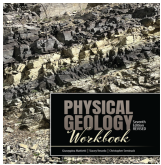
Class Times: M. 12:00pm-2:40pm

Office Hours: 10:00am-12:00pm, Fridays or by appointment

Office: EXPL 3455 (3rd floor in the AOES Geology Suite)

Mandatory Laboratory Workbook: *Physical Geology Workbook*, Mattietti/Verardo/Seminack, Kendall Hunt, 7th Edition REVISED. –ISBN 9798765794067

<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/physical-geology-workbook-0>



General information and lab policies

- This course fulfills the requirement for the GMU Core courses in the natural science, specifically learning outcome 5: students will participate in scientific inquiry and communicate the elements of the process, including: a) making careful and systematic observations, b) developing and testing a hypothesis, c) analyzing evidence, and d) Interpreting results.
- GEOL 103 lab sections are scheduled for a duration of 2 hours 40 minutes.
- The laboratory consists of 13 lab sessions and 2 lab exams: one midterm and one final. Attendance to the lab is mandatory.
- Students are encouraged to participate actively in the lab activities and to collaborate at the solution of the problems presented during the session. That being said, all work must be your own. Group work is fine, group submission is prohibited.
- Students take responsibility for their actions during GEOL 103 lab time. Students participating are bound by all university Policies and uphold the GMU Honor Code. Disruptive behavior during lab time will not be tolerated. Violators will be told to leave the classroom and receive a zero for that week's lab.

Makeup Work Policy

- Missing lab work will be detrimental to your grade for two reasons, first, with only 15 sessions, each is valuable to your final grade. Secondly, you are still responsible for the missed content on the exam.
 - Dropped lab
 - At the end of the semester, I will drop the lowest lab score for each student
 - Makeup
 - You are allowed one makeup lab which you **need to clear with me in advance** with due date determined at that time

Course assessment

- Exam 1 (midterm): 30% of course grade
- Exam 2 (final): 30% of course grade
- Lab exercises: 30% of course grade
 - Each week's lab exercise is equally weighted and are worth 10pts each. At the end of the semester, I will add up individual week scores for a total.
 - Due Dates: Each lab will be due on Blackboard **as a single PDF document** by the start of the next lab period. **I do not accept late work, anything submitted past the deadline will receive a zero.** Anything submitted in an unreadable format will receive a zero.
- Pre-Lab Pop Quizzes: 5% of course grade: Each week you will have a short chapter which I expect you to read **before** coming to class. I will draw quiz questions from this reading. These quizzes will be unannounced so come to lab prepared
- Participation: 5% of course grade
 - Participation score is determined based on active work in lab, engagement in class and **punctuality**. Serial lateness will result in a reduction of participation score.
- Final grades are assigned based the letter grade scale below

Note on Lateness

- Lateness to lab is not acceptable. It is disruptive and wastes my time and that of your peers. As stated above lateness to lab will be negatively reflected in your final course grade.

Exam Integrity

- Only in extenuating circumstances (which you clear with me) will I allow you to make up an exam. If you miss an exam day without a valid excuse, you will receive a score of zero.
- Exam scores are final, re-takes will not be given under any circumstance
- Academic dishonestly on an exam is an extremely serious offense, I reserve the right to penalize you up to and including assigning a zero on an exam for which this is an issue.

Letter Grade	Percent Grade
A+	97-100
A	93 to <97
A-	90 to <93
B+	87 to < 90
B	83 to <87
B-	80 to < 83
C+	77 to <80
C	73 to <77
C-	70 to < 73
D	65 to <70
F	<65

GMU policies

- [Academic Integrity](#) It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows:” Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work.” More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found at the Office of Academic Integrity website.
- [Disability Accommodation](#). If you need special accommodations/arrangement for the class and the exams, you must first file with the [Office of Disability Services](#) (ext. 993-2474)
- [Diversity](#) and [Inclusion](#): Faculty, staff and students in this course welcome and value individuals and their differences including race, economic status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and disability.

- As a faculty member I am required to report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's [Title IX Coordinator](#) per [university policy 1412](#). If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact the [Student Support and Advocacy Center](#) (703-380-1434) or [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (703-993-2380) and [Mason's Title IX Coordinator](#) (703-993-8730; titleix@gmu.edu)
- Privacy: [Student privacy](#) is governed by the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#) and is an essential aspect of this course. Students must use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including communications related to this class. In accordance with FERPA regulation, I will not respond to messages sent from or send messages to a non-Mason email address.

Resources and suggestion for academic success

- GMU Resources: GMU has additional resources for your academic success; among others: [Academic success workshops](#) (see calendar), [University Life for students](#).

GEOL103 LABORATORY calendar – Spring 2024

Lab Session	Topic	Date	Due (Start of lab)
1	Common Rock Forming Minerals	1/22	
2	Igneous Rocks	1/29	Common Rock Forming Minerals
3	Sedimentary Rocks	2/5	Igneous Rocks
4	Metamorphic Rocks	2/12	Sedimentary Rocks
5	The rock cycle – Mineral/Rock review	2/19	Metamorphic Rocks
6	Exam 1	2/26	
	Spring Break		
7	Topographic Maps	3/11	
8	Volcanic Landforms	3/18	Topographic Maps
9	Mass Movements and Coastal Morphology	3/25	Volcanic Landforms
10	Stream Landscapes	4/1	Mass Movements and Coastal Morphology
11	Flood Hazards	4/8	Stream Landscapes
12	Seismology	4/15	Flood Hazards
13	Structural Geology	4/22	Seismology
14	Plate Tectonics and Exam Review	4/29	Structural Geology
**	Exam 2	5/6 (10:30am-1:15pm)	Plate Tectonics

N.B. Unforeseen circumstances could result in a change/rearrangement of the lab topics.