



INTRODUCTORY GEOLOGY LAB
Geology 103 Section 203
George Mason University
Spring 2023

Instructor: Angela Bee

Office: Exploratory Hall 3417

E-mail: abee@gmu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 6:20-7:20 PM & Fridays 5-6 PM by Appointment

Lab Day/Time: Mondays 7:20-10 PM

Lab Room: Exploratory Hall L503

Lab Course Material:

Physical Geology Workbook, 7th Edition, 2022, G. Mattietti, S. Verardo, and C. Seminack. Kendall Hunt. ISBN 9798765710371

Available at the GMU Bookstore or online at: <https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/physical-geology-workbook-0>

General Information & Laboratory Policies:

1. This course fulfills the requirements 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.
2. This GEOL 103 lab section is scheduled for the duration of 2 hours and 40 minutes. Expect to spend that amount of time in lab!
3. The laboratory consists of 13 lab sessions and two lab exams—a midterm and a final.
4. Attendance is mandatory for this course. Please arrive on time. Do not arrive more than 20 minutes late, you miss valuable instruction time, and it is disruptive to the class. This will reduce your participation score.
5. It is your responsibility to verify your enrollment status in this lab section. Here is the semester calendar with important dates, [Spring 2023 Academic Calendar | Office of the University Registrar | George Mason University \(gmu.edu\)](#)

Course Assessment:

1. There will be **two exams** to test your requisite knowledge of the material for this course.
2. **Performance is evaluated as follows:**
 - Exam 1: 30% of lab score
 - Exam 2: 37% of lab score
 - Attendance, Participation & Lab Exercises: 33% of lab score

3. The **final grade** is assigned based on the following score to letter grade scale:

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

- Attendance will be taken for each lab and all exercises are due by the end of lab time unless I specify otherwise.
- No extra-credit will be provided during the semester. However, there may be an extra credit question or questions on either one or both exams.
- Make-up labs will not be administered and missing a lab can be detrimental to your overall lab grade, as you will not be taught the information that will be on the exams. However, the lab exercise/attendance portion of your lab score is based on your best 12 of 13.
- Do not skip lab because one is dropped! Any other absences will be given a score of zero. Any extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and documentation must be provided.
- Students are encouraged to participate actively in the lab activities and to collaborate with other students at the solution of the problems presented during the session. *Lab groups of 2-3 students.
- Both exams and any quizzes are to be completed individually, i.e., these are not done in groups and there will be no collaboration.
- Make sure to bring your own writing material and a calculator to lab. Materials and/or handouts used for specific lab assignments will be provided or accessible via Blackboard.
- Students will familiarize yourself with the safety procedures and devices in the lab pointed out by the instructor during the first lab meeting.
- At the end of each lab, you and your group are responsible for returning the lab material in good order—all trash and recycling must be disposed of properly and the tables should be cleaned. Our class strives to leave the lab in better condition than when we arrive!
- Students must take responsibility for your actions during GEOL 103. Students participating are bound by all university Policies and uphold the GMU Honor Code, see Academic Integrity on page.
- Disruptive behavior during lab time will not be tolerated.
- No food or beverages other than water are allowed during lab, you may step out of the lab if you need to.
- Cell phones/Smartphones are not to be used during lab, unless taking pictures of samples for studying. Cell phones/Smartphones will not be used during exams. You may need to bring your own calculator to exams—will discuss once the course begins.

17. Laptops, notebooks, tablets, and other electronic devices are permitted for taking notes, completing assignments, and learning the course material. These devices are NOT to be used for texting, chatting, surfing (not related to coursework), posting to any social media outlet, etc.
 18. Any cancellations due to inclement weather or other emergencies will result in an additional assignment to do outside of class to make up for missing material, this will count for the attendance/participation/lab exercise part of the lab score.
 19. You must check you GMU email and Blackboard regularly as important information will be posted. Also, supplementary practice may be posted for study purposes.
 20. Materials for this class are only for registered students and are not to be posted to websites or distributed in any way.
 21. Students should familiarize themselves with the syllabus and refer to it throughout the semester.
 22. Syllabus and schedule are subject to change and the most current syllabus will be available on Blackboard and will be announced via announcement and/or email.
 23. The best way to communicate with me is via email, abee@gmu.edu. The subject line should be GEOL103 203 Last name, topic, e.g., GEOL103 203 Wegener, plate tectonics.
-

Important University 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 for Academic Success:

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

GEOL103 LABORATORY CALENDAR Spring 2023

Read the chapters in the lab manual corresponding to the topics prior to lab.
Topics in lab may be covered in lecture before or after lab, so **preparation** is important.

Lab Number	Topic	Day
1	Mineral Identification	1/23
2	Igneous Rocks	1/30
3	Sedimentary Rocks	2/6
4	Metamorphic Rocks	2/13
5	The Rock Cycle & Review	2/20
Exam	LAB Exam 1	2/27
6	Topographic Maps	3/6
<i>Spring Break (3/13-3/18)</i>		
7	Volcanic Landforms	3/20
8	Mass Movement	3/27
9	Stream Landscapes	4/3
10	Flooding	4/10
11	Coastline Morphology	4/17
12	Seismology	4/24
13	Structural Geology	5/1
Exam	LAB Exam 2	5/15 7:20 – 10 PM