

**Physical Geology Lab
Geology 103
Fall 2010**

Instructor: Penny Nicely (nicelyp@wnc.edu)

Office hours: 2:30-5:00PM Mondays and Wednesdays, Room 102 Bently Hall. Other times may be arranged by appointment.

Class Meets: Douglas campus: M 7:00 – 9:45PM, Science Lab, Bently Hall

Text: *Laboratory Manual for Physical Geology*, 14th edition by Zumberge, Rutherford and Carter
The college bookstore will usually have lab books available 3-4 weeks before classes start. It is your responsibility to buy your book prior to the start of class. **Used lab books are not recommended as exercises are often filled in or missing.**

Course Description: Class offers experimental and in-depth investigations designed to illustrate fundamental principles of Geology. Designed to be taken concurrently with Geology 101. Combined with Geology 101 meets lab science requirement for UNR and is transferable.

Further information can be accessed at: www.wnc.edu/academics/catalog/geol/103.php

Prerequisites: Geology 101 or current enrollment and Math 120, 126 or higher

Course Objectives: Students will have the opportunity to gain factual knowledge of physical geology through practical exercises utilizing geologic principles

Class Date		Topic/assignments
August	30	Introduction/Minerals Identification (Exercise 1A)
September	6	Labor Day – No Class
	13	Mineral Identification (Exercise 1B)
	20	Intro to rocks / Igneous rocks (Exercise 2)
	27	Sedimentary Rocks (Exercise 3)
October	4	Metamorphic Rocks/Review (Exercise 4)
	11	Exam 1
	18	Geologic column and relative time (Exercises 5,6)
	25	Intro to Topographic maps (Exercises 8,10,11,12)
November	1	Topographic maps (Exercise 13C, 15A, 16 A)
	8	Exam 2
	15	Intro to Geologic Maps (Exercise 20A & Handout)
	22	Structure (Exercises 21, 22A,B,C, 23A,B)
	29	Structure (Exercises 24A,B, 27A)
December	6	Structure/Review Projects Due
	13	Exam 3

Reading assignments corresponding to the exercises must be completed prior to class. You will be expected to have read the material and be ready to work. Questions are encouraged at the beginning of each lab period.

Lab format: Lab will consist of both short lecture and practical exercises. There will be a final project which will encompass the skills and concepts learned throughout the semester which will be given to you in a separate handout at or before the first exam.

Cell phones will be turned off during lab. **For your safety, no food or drink are allowed in the lab.** You may take a break and get a drink/snack in the lounge during the lab exercises as long as this isn't abused. Students may work together during lab, but are expected to turn in their own work on the exercises. Copying from a classmate is considered plagiarism and will be handled like any other form of cheating. **Cheating in any form will result in an F in this class.** Lab exercises will be due during the class scheduled and will be worth 10 points each. Labs will be accepted up to one week after they are assigned. Late labs will be assessed a 50% point penalty. (Example: A lab is worth 10 points, it can only earn 5 points if turned in late.) **No labs will be accepted more than one week late.**

Lab procedure will be to do the exercises assigned and go over them individually with the instructor. Unless specifically requested, you will not need to hand in the exercises. Exercises that are handed in will be returned the next lab period whenever possible.

Exams: Exams will be both written and practical. There **may** be bonus questions on the exams. Due to the practical nature of the exams, they cannot be made up. **The final project must be turned in on time and will not be accepted late.**

Attendance and Participation: 10 points will be deducted for each missed class after the first one. (i.e. you get one absence free) Due to the nature of the class, if you miss more than two classes you must consult with the instructor regarding your grade status.

There will be no extra credit projects in this class.

Grades: Grades for this class will be on a points basis. The number of points needed to achieve a given grade is shown below. Everyone starts out with the total number of points and an "A" grade. How many points you keep and the grade you earn are entirely up to you.

Note that there will be no W's given in this class. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the class if they feel their grade will not be to their satisfaction.

Points will be awarded as follows:

Class attendance and participation	50 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Lab exercises (10 points/exercise)	250 points
Final project	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	700 points

Points per grade:

700 – 630 points =	A
629 – 560 points =	B
559 – 490 points =	C
489 – 441 points =	D
440 and below =	F

Grading example:

At the beginning of the class you have 700 points. On the first exam you receive 90/100 (90%). You have done all the exercises to date so you now have 690 points – still an A. You earn 84/100 (84%) on the second exam and you missed one exercise. So you now have 664 – Still an A. You've come to class and participated so your 50 points are probably not in danger. You can lose a total of 34 points on the remaining exercises, project and exam and still keep your A, but at this point you will be wishing you had studied more in the beginning. Don't wait! Remember, the points you end up with determine your grade at the end of the semester. Once you lose them, the points are gone, so study now and ask questions on anything that isn't clear. **It is not advisable in this course to wait until late in the semester and hope to "pull it out" at the final – it won't happen.**

Changes to this syllabus may be made up to the beginning of classes.