

GEOL 1110- PHYSICAL GEOLOGY 3 CREDITS

SYLLABUS

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Physical Geology is an introduction to our dynamic Earth introducing students to the materials that make up Earth (rocks and minerals) and the processes that create and modify the features of our planet. The course will help students learn how mountains are formed, how volcanoes erupt, where earthquakes occur, and how water, wind, and ice can shape the landscape. Students will also develop a basic understanding of the ways humans have altered the planet including our impact on natural resources and global climate change.

Prerequisites: None

Semester Offered: All

COMMON STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will demonstrate competency in...

BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING

Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.

CRITICAL THINKING

Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.

CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Students will be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively.

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGIES

Students will demonstrate fluency in the application and use of technologies in multiple contexts.

Student work from this class may be randomly selected and used anonymously for assessment of course, program, and/or institutional learning outcomes. For more information, please refer to the Dean of the appropriate School.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to...

1. Recall, describe or explain geologic vocabulary.

A copy of this approved syllabus is on file in the dean's office.

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2. Identify or explain aspects of the geologic time scale and compare the uses and limitations of relative and absolute dating.
3. Recognize or explain the evidence used to support the theory of plate tectonics. Describe or identify how plate tectonics is related to the structure and features of the Earth.
4. Describe the formation of, and describe, compare, and classify minerals.
5. Identify or describe the three main rock types, how each forms in the context of the rock cycle and what each indicates about its environment of formation.
6. Recognize or explain the fundamentals of surface and groundwater hydrology and discuss the impact of human activities on water quality and quantity.
7. Describe or discuss the processes that are responsible for specific geologic hazards (e.g., earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, mass movement, flooding, etc.).
8. Recognize or describe the geologic processes involved in the formation and concentration of geologic resources.