

Geology 214: Environmental Geology

Syllabus and Schedule - Spring 2007 Dr. Robert Mitchell

Text

Edward A. Keller, Introduction to Environmental Geology, 3rd Edition
http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_keller_introenvgeo_3

Date		Topic	Reading
April	4	Introduction	Chapter 1
	6	Population/Sustainability	Chapter 1
	9	Hazard and Risk	Chapter 4
	11	Earthquakes	Chapter 5
	13	Earthquakes	Chapter 5
	16	Earthquake Hazards and Predictions	Chapter 5
	18	Tsunamis	Chapter 5
	20	Coastal Hazards	Chapter 9
	23	Volcanoes	Chapter 6
	25	Volcanic Hazards	Chapter 6
	27	Predicting Volcanic Activity	Chapter 6
	30	Lahars	Chapter 6
May	2	Exam 1	
	4	Slope Processes	Chapter 8
	7	Slope Processes	Chapter 8
	9	Landslides	Chapter 8
	11	Subsidence	Chapter 8
	14	Floods	Chapter 7
	16	Floods	Chapter 7
	18	Floods	Chapter 7
	21	Groundwater	Chapter 11
	23	Groundwater	Chapter 11
	25	Exam 2	
	28	Memorial Day –No Class	
	30	Groundwater Pollution	Chapter 12
June	1	Groundwater Pollution	Chapter 12
	4	Waste Management	Chapter 16
	6	Waste Management	Chapter 16

	8	Review	
June	13	Final Exam Wednesday 3:30 -5:30 pm	

I reserve the right to change the syllabus as required throughout the term to better meet the instructional needs of the class.

About the Course

Environmental geology deals with relationships between man and her/his geologic environment; it is concerned with the problems that people have in using the Earth and the reaction of the Earth to that use. Environmental geology encompasses geologic hazards (e.g., earthquakes, landslides, volcanic hazards, floods), waste management, groundwater supply and pollution, and energy resources to name a few. The objective of this course is to educate you about some of these concepts so you can be better land-use resource advocates.

Because Geology 101 or 211 is required for Geol 214, you may experience some overlap as I introduce a topic. Also, since this class contains a cross section of students (i.e. art majors to science majors) there may be times during the quarter where some of you may get overwhelmed while others of you are bored. Please be patient while I try to address the various levels.

Exams

There will be three 100 point exams offered in this course; two, one-hour midterm exams and a comprehensive final. The exams will cover the material discussed in the reading and lectures. You will be required to take all the exams.

Make-up exams will be given only in the case of official prearranged absences or emergencies. An excused absence form from the office of Student Affairs is required. Make-up exams may be of a different format (e.g., essay type). Departmental policy prohibits any early exams.

Grading

Your grade will be based on the average of the three exams, which will constitute 90% of your grade. The term project will be worth 10%.

The grading scale will be as follows (a grading curve is possible, but not certain):

93.0 or above	=	A
90.0-92.9	=	A-
87.6-89.9	=	B+
83.0-87.5	=	B
80.0-82.9	=	B-
77.6-79.9	=	C+
73.0-77.5	=	C
70.0-72.9	=	C-
67.6-69.9	=	D+
63.0-67.5	=	D
59.0-62.9	=	D-
below 59	=	F