



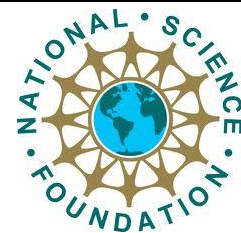
Instructor: DR. BERAKI WOLDEHAIMANOT

Office: MSB-226

Office hours: By appointment only

Phone: (310) 287-4524

Email: Woldehb@wlac.edu



Summer 2015 (Jun 15 - Jul 26, 2015)

Section # 8574

Location - MSA-307

Fridays 12:40 - 14:45; 4:05hrs/week TBA

GEOLOGY 285- DIRECTED STUDY (2 UNITS)

Tentative Schedule

COURSE DESCRIPTION, SCOPE & OBJECTIVES

Geology 285 is a 2-unit course designed to equip S-STEM students with basic geological knowledge based on field experience. Information and facts on the materials that compose our planet Earth and forces and processes that affect it will be presented in a series of lectures (or discussion in instructor's office if number of students is less than 5). There will be 12 hours of lectures/discussions, 10 hours of field work, and 14 hours dedicated to data organization, analysis, interpretation, and writing a field report. The topics discussed in the lectures include a survey of minerals & rocks, concepts of plate tectonics, the forces & processes that create volcanoes & earthquakes; interpretation of the Paleoenvironment for different rock formations; reading geologic maps and understanding the geologic time scale. Students will also have hands-on experience about minerals and rocks. The lecture series/discussions will conclude by giving students important guidelines on writing field research papers.

Upon conclusion of the lecture series, students will go out in a one-day field trip to the Devil's Punchbowl and Pallet Creek areas near Palmdale, CA. The instructor will accompany students to the field. The one-day (all day) field trip will take place on Saturday, June 27th, 2015.

Students enrolled in Geology 285 MUST attend all lectures and the one-day field trip in order to continue in the course, NO EXCEPTIONS!

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe processes of rock formation; describe physical properties of common minerals & rock types, and interpret the origin of rocks through observable facts and by reading geologic maps
2. Map geological formations and structures (faults, folds) in the field
3. Explain the processes of formation of rocks and structures based on geologic maps
4. Interpret the paleo-environment of rock formations
5. Be able to find and locate online and print resources about the study area
6. Be able to write research paper based on geological data collected from the field

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

There will be NO formal examination for this course. Assessment will include evaluation of draft research paper, evaluation of the final paper, and evaluation of presentation of research work.

The draft paper should be in its most complete form at the time it is submitted. It must contain all elements of a complete paper (i.e. with all section titles included). Moreover, formatting and organization, grammatical and mechanics aspects should possess qualities of a scientific paper's look.

Whereas the written papers will be evaluated by the instructor of record, the presentations will be evaluated by a panel of professors and staff of the S-STEM program. Points for the presentation will be the average of points as evaluated by all professors.

Your final grade will be determined by the following:

First Draft	50%
Final Paper	25%
<u>Presentation</u>	<u>25%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A:	≥90%
B:	80-89%
C:	70-79%
D:	60-69%
F:	<60%

DUE DATES

- First Draft due: July 17, 2015 {For each day your draft is past due date, 5 points will be deducted, no exceptions!}
- Final Paper due: July 23, 2015 {For each day your paper is past due date, 5 points will be deducted, no exceptions!}
- Presentation on: July 24, 2015 {If a student does not show up on the scheduled presentation time, that student will receive Incomplete ("I") grade!}

This syllabus may be modified in order to better meet student needs or in the event of an emergent matter.