

**WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE**  
**EARTH SCIENCE – EARTH 001**

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Fall 2015 (Aug 31<sup>st</sup> – Dec 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

Section 0895: M, W 9:35 - 11:00; Bldg. MSA 307

Section 0896: M, W 11:10-12:35; Bldg. MSA 307

Office hours: M-Th 8:30-9:30; W 15:40-17:00 & by Apmt.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Tentative)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>Textbook Reading</u>
AUG 31 to SEP 23	1. THE NATURE OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM	Chapter 15 pages 483-513
	2. BEYOND OUR SOLAR SYSTEM {Assignment 1. The Universe}	Chapter 16 pages 514-537
	3. PLATE TECTONICS	Chapter 5 pages 150-187
	4. RESTLESS EARTH: EARTHQUAKES, GEOLOGIC STRUCTURES & MOUNTAIN BUILDING {Assignment 2. Earthquakes}	Chapter 6 pages 188-229
SEP 28	<b>REVIEW TOPICS 1-4</b>	
SEP 30	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Mid-Term Exam</b>	
OCT 5 to NOV 2	5. MINERALS	Chapter 1 pages 22-43
	6. ROCKS {Assignment 3. Volcanic activity}	Chapter 2 pages 44-75; Chapter 7 pages 230-269
	7. GEOLOGIC TIME	Chapter 8 pages 270-293
	8. LANDSCAPES FASHIONED BY WATER	Chapter 3 pages 76-117
NOV 4	<b>REVIEW TOPICS 5-8</b>	
NOV 9	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Mid-Term Exam</b> {HW Assignment 4. TBD}	
NOV 16 to DEC 7	9. EARTH'S DYNAMIC ATMOSPHERE	Chapters 11-14 pages 352-471
	10. THE GLOBAL OCEAN	Chapters 9, 10 pages 294-351
	11. GLACIAL AND ARID LANDSCAPES	Chapter 4 pages 118-149
	12. EARTH RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT {Assignment 5. Env. Issues}	Handouts
DEC 9	<b>REVIEW TOPICS 9-12</b>	
DEC 16 @ 10:15 AM	← FINAL EXAM (SECTION 0895)	
DEC 14 @ 11:30 AM	← FINAL EXAM (SECTION 0896)	

TEXTBOOK

Lutgens, F.K. and Tarbuck, E.J., (2014). *Foundations of Earth Science*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.; PEARSON/Prentice Hall publishers; ISBN 978-0-321-81179-0

TRANSFER: CSU, UC

PREREQUISITE: None

## COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Earth Science (Earth 001) is an interdisciplinary study of geology, physical geography, oceanography, and astronomy. The course includes a broad range of topics such as the origins and occurrences of earth materials (minerals & rocks), landscapes, earthquakes, oceans, Earth's atmosphere, the planets and related environmental issues.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Describe the Big-bang theory to explain the origin of our solar system and the Milky Way Galaxy; cite evidence for the age of our solar system & our planet Earth; Name the planets of our solar system and describe their geological and astronomical significance; describe the principles of relative and absolute dating as applied to the study of Earth's history.
2. Explain processes of rock formation; identify the common minerals & rock types, and interpret the origin of rocks and their structures through observable facts.
3. Explain the global and local distribution of earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain belts, mineral & energy resources and examine how plate tectonics is related to their distribution.
4. Name the oceans of our planet and discuss their origin; describe the physical & chemical properties of ocean water; discuss surface & groundwater; Identify and distinguish the elements and controls of weather and climate and the influence that each has on seasonality, atmospheric disturbances, world climate, and pollution.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE, IN-CLASS USE OF LAPTOPS, TABLETS (IPAD ETC.), VOICE RECORDERS & CAMERAS

It is required that students arrive in class on time. Occasional tardiness of up to 10 minutes may be tolerated. However, no student will be allowed to enter the classroom 10 minutes after the start of the class.

Students who want to use laptops and tablets (such as iPad etc.) while class is in session can use them under the following conditions: (1) the laptops and tablets can only be used to read lecture notes from Etudes, or to take notes. Unless explicitly announced, no web browsing or electronic communication is allowed! (2) the student sits in the front row of seats. If the Instructor suspects that a student may be doing other activities with the computer other than those described above, the instructor reserves the right to see what the student is doing and can prohibit the student from using the computer.

Voice or video recording of lectures using a recording device may be allowed if in the instructors judgment there is a need for a student to do so. However, students should seek prior approval from their instructor.

Students are responsible for all academic-related material, assignment, or information missed when absent. These include lectures, handouts, class activities, assignments, or any course-related information.

## SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES ON ETUDES:

PowerPoint lecture notes (including this course syllabus), assignments, and other announcements will be posted on *Etudes*, an online course management system of the West Los Angeles College. By the first day of classes, instructions on how to log on to the Etudes website will have been emailed to all course participants who have valid student email accounts with the College.

## ETUDES User ID

**Your Etudes User ID** is your Student ID Number (not your SS#).

**Example:** Jose Garcia has the following Student ID: 880123456

Based on this example, Jose's ETUDES **User ID** would be **880123456**

## ETUDES Password (first time login)

Your Etudes password is the **MonthDay** of your birth in school records.

*Example:* Jose Garcia's birthday is April 11th, 1982 (04/11/82). His ETUDES Password would be 0411

*When you log in for the first time Etudes will ask you to change your password.*

Students can read online or print the PowerPoint lecture notes for their personal use. It must be noted that the supplemental resources are meant to enhance the course delivery system; they are by no means a replacement to attending class. Students will be required to attend classes regularly. Students should also note that all assessments will be administered on campus, not online.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Assessment will include *two mid-term exams, a final exam, and 5 assignments*. Questions will be any combinations of multiple choices, matching, fill-in-the blank and essay type. Any materials covered by lectures, video shows, and as reading assignments from textbooks may be included in the exams.

All exams are closed-book and closed-note. During examinations any printed or hand-written papers, related or unrelated to the exam are NOT allowed. If any of these are found in your possession during an exam, these will be considered as cheating and will be reported to College authorities for appropriate action. In addition, during exams use of electronic media (e.g. cell phone, laptop, tablet, including listening to music from iPod etc.) will not be allowed. All electronic media should remain switched off for the entire duration of the exam. If there is a need for their use, the instructor must first approve them. Use of such media without instructor's approval, will be considered as cheating and will be reported to college authorities.

The *five assignments* are each worth 10 points. Most of the assignments shall be completed in-class. Students who were absent on the day the assignment was given will score zero for that assignment and NO alternative assignments will be given.

In addition to the above, there will be *two extra credit assignments*, each worth 15 points, making a total of 30 points. The assignments will be given after the first midterm exam and your instructor will explain the task in due course.

*Students must bring SCANTRON (FORM NO. 882 E), a pencil and an eraser for each exam.*

Your final grade will be determined by the following:

1 <sup>st</sup> Mid-term Exam	100 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mid-term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
5 Assignments	50 points
<u>2 Extra credit assignments</u>	<u>[30 points]</u>

Final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

<b>A:</b> $\geq$ 315 points
<b>B:</b> 280-314 points
<b>C:</b> 245-279 points
<b>D:</b> 210-244 points
<b>F:</b> <210 points

**TOTAL 350 points**

## POLICY ON EXAM MAKE-UPS

Students should take exams on the scheduled dates; otherwise they will score zero points for the missed exam. There will be NO make-up exams except for valid and verifiable reasons (for example, if you were ill, you must submit a doctor's note). If you have a problem on the day of the exam you, your relatives or friends must e-mail or call your instructor before the scheduled exam time. Make-up exams, when approved, will take place on a date determined by your instructor.

### POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY & CONDUCT IN CLASS

Pursuant to West Los Angeles College's [WLAC] policy on student conduct, all forms of disruptive behaviors such as private talking, use of cell phones and texting while class is in session, as well as going out of class to receive or make a call etc. will not be allowed. These behaviors detract from the learning experience of others in the class. You should make certain that cell phones are turned off before entering the class. In addition, eating &/or drinking beverages (except water) in the classroom, as well as chewing gum are prohibited. These and other college policies on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism) will be strictly enforced. Students should read WLAC's publication on all aspects of student conduct outlined in the most recent College Catalog or by logging onto the College website at [http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC\\_Catalog\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_Catalog_Policies.pdf).

Consequences of Misconduct: Violators of College regulations and rules are subject to disciplinary action under Board Rule 9803.15 of the Los Angeles Community College District. Depending upon the seriousness of the conduct, disciplinary procedures may range from a warning to removal from the class with a referral to the Vice President of the College.

### DEADLINES

Students should adhere to Add/Drop policies & deadlines of the College. It is the student's responsibility to officially drop out of the course, when he/she stops attending. Otherwise, grades other than a "W" may be assigned.

### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

If a student has disability (with special physical, communication or learning needs) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) located on the first floor of the Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC). DSPS' phone number is (310) 287-4450.

### COLLEGE IS CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

Labor Day: Sept 7

Veterans Day: Nov 11

Thanksgiving: Nov 26 - 29

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