



**Instructor:** DR. BERAKI WOLDEHAIMANOT

**Office:** MSB-226

**Office hours:** M-Th 8:30-9:30 am; W, Th 2:00-5:00 pm and by appointment

**Phone:** (310) 287-4524

**Email:** Woldehb@wlaac.edu

Fall 2014 (Sep 2 – Dec 21, 2014)  
Location - MSA-307

Section # 1176: Tu,Th 9:35 - 11:00 am  
Section # 1177: Tu,Th 11:10 - 12:35 pm

PHYSICAL GEOLOGY - GEOLOGY I (3 UNITS)  
Course Schedule (Tentative)

DATE	TOPICS	TEXTBOOK READING
SEP 2 to OCT 2	1A. AN INTRODUCTION TO GEOLOGY 1B. TOURING OUR SOLAR SYSTEM <i>Assignment about the Universe</i>	Chapter 1 Pages 3-39; Chapter 24 Pages 815-851
	2. PLATE TECTONICS	Chapter 2 Pages 41-79
	3A. CRUSTAL DEFORMATION 3B. ORIGIN OF MOUNTAINS	Chapter 10 Pages 335-359; Chapter 14 Pages 459-485
	4A. EARTHQUAKES 4B. EARTH'S INTERIOR <i>Assignment on Earthquakes</i>	Chapter 11 Pages 361-393; Chapter 12 Pages 395-421
<b>OCT 7</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> MID-TERM EXAM</b>	
OCT 9 to NOV 4	5. MATTER AND MINERALS	Chapter 3 Pages 81-115
	6A. MAGMA, IGNEOUS ROCKS, AND INTRUSIVE ACTIVITY 6B. VOLCANOES AND VOLCANIC HAZARDS <i>Assignment on Volcanic activity</i>	Chapter 4 Pages 117-151; Chapter 5 Pages 153-195
	7A. WEATHERING 7B. MASS WASTING 7C. SEDIMENTARY ROCKS	Chapter 6 Pages 197-229; Chapter 15 Pages 489-513; Chapter 7 Pages 231-267
	8. METAMORPHISM AND METAMORPHIC ROCKS	Chapter 8 Pages 269-301
<b>Nov 6</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> MID-TERM EXAM</b>	
NOV 13 to DEC 11	9. GEOLOGIC TIME	Chapter 9 Pages 303-333
	10A. RUNNING WATER 10B. GROUND WATER	Chapter 16 Pages 515-553; Chapter 17 Pages 555-589
	11. ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES	Chapter 23 Pages 779-813
	12. GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND GEOLOGY <i>Assign on Env impact of Geological resources</i>	Chapter 21 Pages 703-739
<b>DEC 16 @ 10:15 AM</b> <b>DEC 18 @ 11:30 AM</b>	<b>← COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM (SECTION 1176)</b> <b>← COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM (SECTION 1177)</b>	

**TEXTBOOK (REQUIRED)**

Tarbuck, E.J., Lutgens, F.K., and Tasa, D. (2014). *Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology* 11<sup>th</sup> edition;  
Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers; ISBN: 978-0-321-81406-7

**TRANSFER:** CSU, UC

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES**

Physical Geology 1 is a 3 unit course that deals with materials that compose our planet Earth and forces and processes that affect it. The course includes a survey of minerals & rocks, a study of plate tectonics, the forces & processes that create volcanoes & earthquakes, a study of surface features created by streams, groundwater & landslides; concepts behind the formation of petroleum, coal & other mineral deposit such as gold, diamond, aluminum, copper, etc.; and the environmental impact of energy and mineral resources.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. Describe the origin of the planet Earth and cite evidence for its age; explain the role of plate tectonics in configuring the continents and oceans of our Planet; describe the principles of relative and absolute dating as applied to the study of Earth's history.
2. Describe 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 and volcanoes, and examine how plate tectonics is related to earthquakes.
4. Discuss the processes of formation and distribution of energy, mineral, and water resources in global and local context.
5. Discuss the impact of mining activities, mineral refining, and burning of fossil fuels on the environment.

**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.

Taking pictures or screen shots of PowerPoint presentations or other lecture items from the white board or projector screen are NOT allowed. The reason is simple: they destruct the smooth flow of the teaching-learning process. Thus, unless explicitly approved by the instructor, students cannot use their cell phones or other devices to take pictures during lecture hours.

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.

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 exams will be administered on campus, not online.

Please note that if you have any questions you will need to contact me using my college email, not via *Etudes*. If you send private messages via *Etudes* you will not get any response from your instructor.

### **ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

Assessment will include two mid-term exams, a comprehensive final exam, and 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.

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, this must be first approved by the instructor; use of such media without instructor's approval, will constitute cheating and will be reported to college authorities.

The course includes four assignments, 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 an opportunity for optional extra credit work where interested students could choose and visit one museum in Los Angeles among several alternatives, submit a two-page report and earn up to 15 points. Detailed instructions will be given later in the semester.

There will also be random in-class extra credit assignments.

Students who want to visit museum/s other than those suggested by the instructor or have alternative suggestions are encouraged to speak with their instructor. If in the instructor's judgment the alternative suggestions are instructional, the student may be allowed to visit those suggested places or institutions and submit reports for their visit.

*Students must bring SCANTRON (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	160 points
Assignments	40 points
Optional Extra credit	[15 points]
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>400 points</b>

Final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

<b>A:</b>	≥360 points
<b>B:</b>	320-359 points
<b>C:</b>	240-319 points
<b>D:</b>	160-239 points
<b>F:</b>	<160 points

Final grades for the course will be posted on the College's "Student Information System" within 10 days after the final exam. To log on to the site open the college's webpage ([www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu)) and click the button titled "Student Information System (SIS)".

#### **POLICY ON EXAM MAKE-UPS**

Students should take exams on the scheduled dates; otherwise they will score zero points for that 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 had an emergency 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 answer or make a call etc. will not be allowed. These behaviors detract from the learning experience of others in the class. Students 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\\_12-14Catalog\\_FRONT.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_12-14Catalog_FRONT.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.

*Remember, if you decide to withdraw from the course, you must file appropriate papers in the Admissions Office.*

#### **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.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

<u>Last day to:</u> Drop a class without a fee: <u>Sep 12</u> Drop a class without a "W": <u>Sep 12</u> Drop a class with a "W": <u>Nov 21</u>	<u>College is closed on the following days</u> <u>Labor Day:</u> Sep 1 <u>Veteran's Day:</u> Nov 11 <u>Thanksgiving:</u> Nov 27-30
---	---

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