



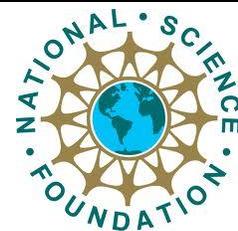
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Summer 2013 (Jun 16 – Jul 27, 2014)

Section # 8574

Location - MSA-307

Fridays 12:40 - 14:45; 2hrs TBA

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GEOLGY 285- DIRECTED STUDY (2 UNITS)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION, SCOPE & OBJECTIVES**

Geology 285 is a 2-unit course designed to equip S-STEM students with 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). The lectures/discussions will be held weekly for 2 hours on Fridays plus 2 more hours on a day to be agreed with students. The topics discussed 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. 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 Santa Clarita Valley (see map below). The instructor will accompany students to the field. The field trip will take place on a Saturday and shall last approximately 6-8 hrs. The Santa Clarita Valley being so vast, we may not be able to visit each and every geological site. But every effort will be made to cover as much area and distance as weather conditions permits.

**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 on 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:

Final Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

First Draft	50 points	A: $\geq$ 90 points
Final Paper	25 points	B: 80-89 points
<u>Presentation</u>	<u>25 points</u>	C: 70-79 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 points</b>	D: 60-69 points
		F: < 60 points

### POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY

Pursuant to West Los Angeles College's [WLAC] policy on academic integrity, including cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students should read WLAC's publication on all aspects of student conduct (and consequences of misconduct) 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).

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