

Pensacola State College Section Syllabus  
ESC 1000 Earth Science

**Instructor:** Dr. Ophelia George  
**Office:** Building 17, Room 1744  
**Email:** ogeorge@pensacolastate.edu

**Credits:** 3 cc

**Course Description:** Provides a broad survey of geology (earth materials and processes), oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. An introductory course primarily designed to give non-science majors a solid background of the interrelated disciplines that make up the "earth sciences."

**Offered:** FA, SP, SU.

**Distribution:** Meets AA General Education Core, Natural Sciences (Physical Sciences) requirement.

**Textbooks:**  
Foundations of Earth Science; Lutgens; 9780134184814; 8th; Pearson; 2017

**Supplemental Materials:** None

**Special Requirements:**

Student Expectations—Students enrolled in this course can expect the following: 1) clearly identified course objectives; 2) productive class meetings; 3) a positive learning environment; 4) opportunities for appropriate student participation; 5) effective instruction; 6) positive and appropriate interactions; 7) assistance with meeting course objectives during and beyond class hours; 8) evaluation of student performance and appropriate and timely feedback; and 9) clear and well-organized instruction.

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes:**

**Critical Thinking:** The student analyzes, evaluates, and, if necessary, challenges the validity of ideas, principles, or data in order to develop informed opinions, probable predictions, or defensible conclusions.

**Scientific and Mathematical Literacy:** The student properly identifies and applies scientific or mathematical principles and methods.

**Information Literacy:** The student effectively locates, evaluates, and applies information from a variety of sources.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

1. List and/or identify the most common elements, minerals, and rocks of the earth's crust.
2. Diagram the rock cycle and correlate rock types with the environment in which they are formed.
3. Understand the actions and interactions of external processes such as wind, weathering, mass wasting, and the general role of water on the earth's crust including streams, ice, and underground water.
4. Recognize the internal processes such as earthquakes, plate tectonics, igneous activity, mountain building and geologic structures and the theories related to these processes.
5. Discuss the geologic features of the ocean floor and explain the dynamics of the ocean floor.
6. Describe the composition and structure of the atmosphere focusing on the elements of weather in relation to earth processes.
7. Appreciate earth's place in the universe regarding the general nature of galaxies, stars and the solar system.

### Methods of Evaluation:

The grade in this course will be based on the following weighted scheme:

| Assignment/Assessment                                  | Grade percentage | Duration  | Total points per task group |
|--|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Attendance   | 4%               | Untimed   | 40                          |
| Discussions (3@20 pts each)                            | 6%               | untimed   | 60                          |
| Homework assignments (10 @25 points each)              | 25%              | untimed   | 250                         |
| 5 exams (@100 points each)                             | 50%              | 70 minutes (1 hr. 10 minutes)                               | 500                         |
| Chapter reading and syllabus quiz (15 @10 points each) | 15%              | 10 minutes for the syllabus quiz, 15 minutes for all others | 150                         |
| <b>Total Points for course</b>                         |                  |   | <b>1000</b>                 |

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| <b>A</b>  | 90 - 100%  |
| <b>B+</b> | 87- 89.9%  |
| <b>B</b>  | 80 - 86.9% |
| <b>C+</b> | 77 – 79.9% |
| <b>C</b>  | 70 - 76.9% |
| <b>D+</b> | 67-69.9%   |
| <b>D</b>  | 60-66.9%   |
| <b>F</b>  | Below 60%  |

**Student Email Accounts:**

Pensacola State College provides an institutional email account to all students enrolled in courses for credit. PirateMail is the official method of communication, and students must use Piratemail when communicating with the College. In cases where companion software is used for a particular class, email may be exchanged between instructor and student using the companion software.

**Flexibility:**

It is the intention of the instructor to accomplish the objectives specified in the course syllabus. However, circumstances may arise which prohibit the fulfilling of this endeavor. Therefore, this syllabus is subject to change. When possible, students will be notified of any change in advance of its occurrence.

**ADA Statement:**

Students with a disability that falls under the Americans with Disability Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, it is the responsibility of the student to notify Student Resource Center for ADA Services to discuss any special needs or equipment necessary to accomplish the requirements for this course. Upon completion of registration with the Student Resource Center for ADA Services office, specific arrangements can be discussed with the instructor.

**Equity Statement:**

Pensacola State College does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, ethnicity, religion, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or genetic information in its programs, activities, and employment. For inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Equity and Student Conduct, 1000 College Blvd., Building 5, Pensacola, Florida 32504, (850) 484-1759.

**Security Statement:**

Pensacola State College is committed to encouraging all members of the College community to be proactive in personal safety measures. In case of emergency, students should ensure that they are aware of the building exit closest to each of their classrooms, as well as all alternative building exits in case circumstances require using a different route.

**Emergency Statement:**

In the case of severe weather or other emergency, the College administration maintains communication with appropriate state and local agencies and makes a determination regarding the cancellation of classes. Notices of cancellation will be made through the College's PSC Alert system and on the College's website.

