



GLY 3163 GEOLOGY OF AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS

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General Information

CLASS LOCATION: WEB

MEETING TIMES: No Scheduled meeting times, At least **8 hours of work per week is required during Fall and Spring semesters and 18 hours per week during Summer semesters**

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. David Foster

Office: Williamson Hall 366

Phone: 352.294.7495

e-mail: For communication regarding this course, e-mail the instructor or TA(s) within e-Learning

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

TBA

OFFICE HOURS

By appointment: please e-mail through the course website to set up a time to meet with me or a TA. We can meet with you face to face or talk with you on the telephone.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

Please post general course questions on the **Course Questions Discussion Board**. Personal questions should be sent to me through e-Learning. The Help page tells you how to do this.

COMMUNICATION COURTESY (NETIQUETTE): All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

- Specify a subject for each message
- Be brief, but be sure you have covered the assigned topic
- Think before you send e-mail to more than one person
- Be careful with humor and sarcasm
- Be careful with personal information
- Use proper grammar and punctuation

Text

Geology of National Parks, 6th edition, by Ann G. Harris, Esther Tuttle and Sherwood Tuttle. Kendal/Hunt Publishing 2004

Course Description

Credits: 3.

This course is an introduction to the geological setting of selected US National Parks. It provides an overview of geological concepts using the Parks as examples and relates geology to the cultural aspects of these parks and environmental issues. (P)

COURSE GOALS

This course provides an overview of the geology of select American National Parks and adjacent regions in the context of geodynamic and geomorphologic processes. The National Parks display dramatic landscapes and geological features in nearly every of plate tectonic setting.

We will use the geology of the Parks to better understand the materials the make up the earth's crust and the processes involved in forming and modifying landscapes in the surface environment.

The geology of the National Parks will be related to cultural aspects and environmental issues. We will also study geological hazards including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and landslides that pertain to the various parks and adjacent regions.

OBJECTIVES

When you complete this course will be able to identify geologic features of the American national parks, as well as explain the plate tectonic forces and surface processes that combine to create the unique landscapes. This course will cover the following parks:

- Grand Canyon National Park
- Zion National Park
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Arches National Park
- Canyonlands National Park
- Death Valley National Park
- Grand Teton National Park
- Mount Rainier National Park
- Olympic National Park
- Mount Saint Helens
- Crater Lake National Park
- Yosemite National Park
- Yellowstone National Park
- Great Smokey Mountain National Park
- Acadia National Park
- Glacier National Park
- Rocky Mountain National Park

General Education Learning Outcomes

This is a General Education course that provides student learning outcomes as listed below:

CONTENT

- Know the basic concepts, theories and terminology of natural science and the scientific method within that discipline.

- Know the major scientific developments within that discipline and the impacts on society and the environment.
- Know relevant processes that govern biological and physical systems within that discipline.

CRITICAL THINKING

- Formulate empirically testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes and living things within that discipline.
- Apply logical reasoning skills effectively through scientific criticism and argument within that discipline.
- Apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking effectively to solve experiments and to evaluate outcomes.

COMMUNICATION

- Communicate scientific findings clearly and effectively using oral, written and/or graphic forms.
- Write effectively using several types of writing, such as research papers and laboratory reports.

Instructional Methods

This course is completely online. The course material will be delivered to you through your textbooks, publisher web supplements and this e-Learning in Canvas course site. You will play an active role in learning the material through:

- Reading the assigned textbook material
- View the video lectures
- Quizzes
- Discussion
- Essay exams
- Project

Course Policies

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to participate in all course activities and assignments. Deadlines are outlined in the course schedule

QUIZZES

Quizzes are due at 11:55 on the date listed. Students are advised to take quizzes early and to use a wired connection. How to set up a wired connection:

<http://media.cop.ufl.edu/elm/hardwire.html>

Late quizzes will not be accepted.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Late work will not be accepted in this course. In the event of illness or emergency, you must provide documentation and contact the Dean of Students office

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>.

Should you have technology issues, you MUST contact the Help Desk immediately. Any requests due to technical difficulties must be accompanied by the Help Desk ticket number and be submitted within 24 hours of the incident.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY:

Students are expected to have access to a reliable computer with a broadband Internet connection. SPECIAL NOTE: Some users with satellite Internet service may find their online courses do not load quickly or consistently due to satellite network design issues.

You will need to use the following tools in this course:

- Updated Browser see: https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help/Student_Faq for recommended browsers
- Wired connection for taking quizzes, exams and viewing videos

UF Policies

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>. ***Violations of the Student Honor Code will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Dean of Students office.*** It is, therefore, expected that all work submitted for assignments is original. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade.

Getting Help

For issues with technical difficulties for e-Learning, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues **MUST** be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. **Late work will not be accepted in this course.**

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Grading

ASSESSMENT

- Three essay exams (300 points)
- Chapter and topic quizzes (440 points)
- Participation in discussion boards and completion of assignments (120 points)
- Group project (140 points)
- Extra credit (up to 50 points) must be completed PRIOR to deadline:
 - Handbook/Syllabus Quiz
 - Mid-term Self Evaluation
- Final grade based on the total of 1000 points

FINAL GRADE POINT BREAKDOWN

Grading guidelines for individual assignments can be found in the course modules. Final grading is based upon the point breakdown below

930 – 1000	A	730 – 769	C
900 – 929	A-	700 – 729	C-
870 – 899	B+	670 - 699	D+
830 – 869	B	630 - 669	D
800 – 829	B-	600 - 629	D-
770 – 799	C+	Below 599	E

This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes in deadlines or requirements will be announced prior to the affected course module.