

Course Syllabus

ESC1000 Introduction to Earth Science (Lectures in McCarthy B G086 MWF 11:45 am)

General education course in Natural Sciences fulfilling Physical Sciences General Education area.

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Textbook: *Earth Science by Marshak & Rauber* All students are required to purchase access to the eText (and associated online system) in order to complete some of the graded activities, termed Smartwork5 in this system. These activities are discussed in detail below. This course is part of the UF All Access program, which means that you need to opt-in and the cost of the materials will be charged to your UF student account. Required course materials include the e-book and Smartwork5 for a cost of approximately \$70. To opt-in use the following link.

<https://www.bsd.ufl.edu/G1CO/IPay1f/start.aspx?TASK=INCLUDED> (<https://www.bsd.ufl.edu/G1CO/IPay1f/start.aspx?TASK=INCLUDED>)

You all have access to the textbook right now, but you will need to opt-in by Friday September 2nd - after that your access to the ebook and Smartwork will be terminated!! Extensions on assignments will not be granted because of failure to opt-in.

You can access the eBook through the Modules link. Note that you can store parts of the eText in cache. This is useful if you are going to be away from internet, but you want to read while away. To do this, open the eText and click on a Chapter/Section, click on the three bars at top left. Toward the bottom in the left column click the "offline reading" option in black and check the sections you want to store.

Course goals Earth is dynamic planet that is continually being reshaped by forces generated within the solid earth and earth's interior, as well as by processes operating in both the oceans and atmosphere. In this course you will gain a basic understanding of the fundamental processes that occur within each of these domains, as well as in the interactions between them.

Course content & objectives

For each module listed below you will find in the *Modules* link in Canvas an overview that provides the goals, graded activities, reading and lecture resources, and a list of objectives (what you need to know) for each exam. Note that the vast majority of the objectives are material covered in the lectures. The lectures cover much of the material in the SW activities, but often in more detail. The Modules covered for each exam is shown below.

Modules

Module 0 : Introductory concepts

Module 1 : Movements with the Earth (and resulting features)

Plate tectonics and earthquakes

Exam i – mid February

Module 2 : Earth materials

Minerals, rocks, resources, etc

Exam ii – late March likely

Module 3 : The hydrosphere

Groundwater, oceans, etc.

Module 4 : The atmosphere

Module 5 : Other parts of the solar system

Geology of the Moon and other planets (time permitting)

Exam iii – April 26th

***Note: there is no cumulative final exam during final exam week*

Communications Please contact me and the TAs through canvas email (NOT Outlook email) as it is much easier to keep track of our conversations. Throughout the semester, I will provide information to you through Canvas announcements. Be sure that you check announcements regularly and set up Canvas to have announcements delivered to you as emails as well.

Delivery of content Content for the course will be delivered through (1) reading, self-guided activities associated with reading, and (3) lectures given every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11:45 am in McCarthy B G086.

Graded Activities (Goals and logistics of each of the activities are discussed below)

Reading activities - completed through Smartwork **20% of total grade** (*Lowest grade dropped*)

Quizzes - completed through Smartwork **20% of total grade** (*Lowest grade dropped*)

Assignments (4-6 total) - available through, and submitted in Canvas **15% of total grade**

Exams (3) - **45% total grade** Multiple-choice type exams in the classroom (all exams are non-cumulative)

Total = 100%

There will be an extra credit opportunity toward the end of the semester. This will provide you with a chance to make up points lost by missing an activity or to simply get extra credit.

**Note: if you missed assignments then your overall grade showing in Canvas may not reflect your actual grade.

Policies for late and missed work The following is a list of penalties for late submissions. Exceptions to these policies will only be provided with fully documented excuses.

Reading activities & Quizzes: 30% score reduction for each day late (no submissions accepted after 48 hours) Assignments:

50% score reduction for each day late (no submissions accepted after 24 hours)

Any technology issues encountered during online activities must be documented with screenshots of error messages, etc.

For technical assistance within Canvas visit the UF Helpdesk or <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu> (<https://helpdesk.ufl.edu>) or call 352-392-4357). For assistance and technical issues associated with Smartwork, use the help link within the Norton Smartwork site.

Descriptions of the different types of graded activities

Reading activities (Smartwork) The Chapters covered for each of these activities is in the name of the assignment and, if only specific sections are covered it is shown in the description within Smartwork. You should read the appropriate sections in the textbook before beginning these activities. In these activities you will answer basic questions on the material from your reading. These are commonly in the form of labeling, sorting, multiple choice, etc. and some are associated with short video clip explanations. Other than having a due date/time, these activities are not timed. You have three to four attempts to answer the questions correctly, thus it is expected that you will receive 90-100% for each of these as long as you complete them on time. It is expected that you complete these activities before taking the quizzes. Note that you can open and close the L/R activities as many times as you like before the due date and your work will be saved. Once you open the L/R activity, a grade for the activity will appear in Canvas - this grade will continue to increase as you complete more of the activity.

Quizzes (Smartwork) Quizzes consist of ~15-25 multiple choice questions that cover the material from the book and on the Learning/Reading activities. The quizzes are timed and you will have around one minute per question. Thus, there is time to look up a couple of questions, but not enough to expect to look up most of the material. You should complete the reading and Learning/Reading activities before starting the quizzes. There is one of these activities due every Monday at the same time as the Learning/Reading activity. ****Be sure that you have a secure internet connection before beginning the quizzes**** *Once you begin a quiz, you cannot stop the clock from running (even if you hit the "save and exit" button), so be sure that you have the time to complete the quiz before beginning it.*

Assignments - In contrast to the the quizzes and learning/reading activities, which emphasis basic recall and understanding, the assignments will require you to apply the concepts, analyze data, perform calculations, and/or explain concepts with the aid of sketches. Thus, these require more advanced thinking than the Smartwork material. Therefore, the points from the assignments are not as easily earned as in those activities. Not every chapter/module has an assignment - there will be six assignments scattered throughout the semester. Some of the assignments will have multiple parts, including a Guided Learning Activity (GLA). For the GLAs, full points will be earned if completed, but no points are awarded unless completed in full. Your answers for the other parts of the Assignments will be entered through Canvas quizzes that will be available several days prior to the due date. The assignments will be available through the *Assignments* link here on Canvas and related materials will also be dispersed through that link and/or attached to Canvas announcements. Details for the Assignments will be provided in the next couple of weeks.

Exams - These will be multiple choice exams in the classroom. Exam content will focus on a specific subset of material to be specified (largely lecture and assignment material). You will be given a clear list of objectives for each of the exams (i.e., a list of things you need to know). Additional information will be given through Canvas announcements.

Letter-grade assignment:

A	90 - 100%
A-	88 - 90
B+	85 - 88
B	80 - 85
B-	78-80
C+	75 - 78
C	70 - 75
C-	68 -70
D+	65 - 68
D	60 - 65

NOTE: If you fall on a boundary (e.g., 80%), you will receive the higher grade (e.g., 80% = B)

Because the minimum number for each grade range is lower than normal, there is no rounding at the end.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available

at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> (<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> (https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A-ufl.bluera.com_ufl_&d=DwMFAg&c=sJ6xIWYxzLMB3EPkvcnVg&r=y2HjEMjRMHJhfdvLrqJZlYczRsfp5e4TfQjHuc5rVHg&m=WXko6OK_Ha6T00ZVAsFaSh99qRXHQgMNFrywCoehRho&_s=itVU46DDJjnlg4CW6efJOOLgPjdzsPvCghyfzJoFONs&e=). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> (<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>)

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning experience. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.