## **PHYSICAL GEOLOGY (GEO 111)**

Professor - Rhawn Denniston; Office: 202 Norton (x 4306); E-mail: RDenniston@CornellCollege.edu

Office Hours: 11:15 - 12:00 M-F, by appointment, or whenever you stop by.

Text Earth: Portrait of a Planet by Stephen Marshak 3rd Edition

**Course Meeting Times:** 9:15 – 11:15 am M – F; 1:15 – 3:00 pm (as scheduled)

Grading Scheme 15% Exam 1 20% Final Exam 15% Paper 20% Lab 10% Homework 10% Quizzes 10% Participation

- **Goals and Expectations** This course is intended to introduce you to the methods used to reconstruct the structure, history, and mechanisms for change within Earth and its systems including the lithosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, and atmosphere. The immensity of geologic time and principles used to determine chronologies of events will also be discussed. To these ends, we will cover material in lecture, gain hands-on experiences in lab, work independently on relevant homework exercises, and take fieldtrips to see rocks in the field. In addition, each of you will research a topic of my choosing and write a paper on it.
- **Policy on Late Work -** Homework assignments, papers, and exams are to be completed within the scheduled time frame. You will be penalized 25% for every day that the assignment is late. If you have a college-sanctioned excuse for missing class or an assignment deadline, notify me immediately.
- **Exams -** Both lab and lecture exams are closed book; handouts, flowcharts, etc. used in class will not be used during tests. All exams, both in lab and lecture, are cumulative.
- Academic Honesty Cornell College expects all members of the Cornell community to act with academic integrity. An important aspect of academic integrity is respecting the work of others. A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgement of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty. The procedures regarding how the College deals with cases of academic dishonesty appear in The Compass, our student handbook, under the heading "Academic Policies Honesty in Academic Work."
- **Students with Disabilities** Students who need accommodations for learning disabilities must provide documentation from a professional qualified to diagnose learning disabilities. For more information see <u>cornellcollege.edu/disabilities/documentation/index.shtml</u>. Students requesting services may schedule a meeting with the disabilities services coordinator as early as possible to discuss their needs and develop an individualized accommodation plan. Ideally, this meeting would take place well before the start of classes. At the beginning of each course, the student must notify the instructor within the first three days of the term of any accommodations needed for the duration of the course.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1				
9 - Earth Structure; research paper topics assigned	9:15 – Minerals, Sedimentary Rocks, Depositional Environs, Weathering; <i>review questions</i>	9:15 – Geologic Time, Relative & Numerical Dating; <i>review</i> <i>questions due</i>	9:15 – SEISMIC computer exercise (Library 212)	9:15 – Igneous Rocks & Processes; annotated bibliography due
1:15 - NO LAB	<i>due</i> 1:15 – Sedimentary Rocks & Minerals Lab	1:15 – Geology Timeline & Relative Age Lab	1:15 - Intro to Plate Tectonics; Sequence of Events due; review questions due	1:15- Ign Rx & Min Lab
Ch. 1-2; Interlude D (330-340) Annotated Bibliography	Ch. 5, 7; Review Questions; Annotated Bibliography	Ch. 12; Sequence of Events; Review Questions; Annotated Bibliography	Ch. 3-4; SEISMIC exercise, World Plate Boundaries; Review Questions; Annotated Bibliography	Ch. 6; Review Questions; First Draft of Paper
WEEK 2				
9:15 – Volcanoes; review questions due	9:15 – Metamorphism; <i>review</i> questions due	9:15 – Mt Building; Structure	9:15 - MIDTERM EXAM	9:15 – Structure Lab (cont'd)
1:15 - NOVA video (In the Path of a Killer Volcano)	1:15 – Metamorphic Rocks & Minerals Lab			
Ch. 9; Review Questions; First Draft of Paper	Ch. 8; Review Questions; First Draft of Paper	Ch. 10; 11; Review Questions; First Draft Paper: Structure Lab	First Draft of Paper; Structure Lab	Ch. 10-11 Review Questions; First Draft of Paper
WEEK 3				
9:15 – Earthquake video; review questions due; Structure lab due; First draft of paper due	9:15 – Streams & Flooding; review questions due	9:15 – Pre-Quaternary Paleoclimates	9:15 – Ice Records; review questions due; Paleoclimate HW due	9:15 – 11:15 - Fieldtrip to <b>Core</b> <b>Lab</b> (meet at lab at 9:15); <i>review</i> <i>questions due; Paleoclimate HW</i> #2 <i>due</i>
1:15 – Karst and Groundwater			1:15 – Teleconnections	1:15 – NO LAB
Ch. ; Review Questions	Ch. 17; Review Questions; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper	Ch. 20, 22; Review Questions; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper; Paleoclimate HW	Ch. 23; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper; Paleoclimate HW #2	Core Lab Report; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper
WEEK 4				
9:15 – Environmental Issues; review questions due; Core Lab Report due; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper due	9:15 – review session 1:15 – TBD	9:15 – FINAL EXAM		
1:15 - FINAL LAB EXAM				
Ch. 14; Review Questions; 2 <sup>nd</sup> draft of paper	Study for Final Exam			