

Syllabus

GEO 101 Environmental Geology

Fall 2007

Instructor: Gilbert N. Hanson

Office hours Mon. 4 to 5 p.m. and Wed. 3:00 to 3:40 p.m. and by appointment. Office is 310 ESS Building.
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Text: *Introduction to Environmental Geology* by Keller, 3rd or 4th Edition, Prentice Hall publisher

The third edition of the text is available as an e-text at www.safarix.com. The cost is \$63.40 for 150 day subscription

Class Web Site www.geo.sunysb.edu/classes/geo101/

Class meets Mon., Wed. and Fri. at 11:45 a.m. to 12:40 a.m. in 137 Harriman Lecture Hall.

Workshops meet Mon. 1 to 2, Tues. 11:30 to 12:30, Wed. 2:30 to 3:30 and Thurs. 11:30 to 12:30 in ESS 105

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I would urge you to contact the staff in the Disabled Student Services office (DSS), Educational Computing Center (ECC) building , 632-6748/TDD. DSS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation of disability is confidential.

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Any suspected instance of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

The University at Stony Brook expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution; to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations; and to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty is required to report disruptive behavior that interrupts faculty's ability to teach, the safety of the learning environment, and/or students' ability to learn to Judicial Affairs.

GOALS FOR COURSE

At the end of the semester each of you should:

- 1) know the major environmental issues;
- 2) understand the role of geologic factors in local, national and global environmental problems;
- 3) have acquired the knowledge to critically read news articles on environmental geology issues and explain to others the importance of the article;
- 4) appreciate that most environmental problems are complex and involve interrelationships, often political, that may defy simple solutions;
- 5) know how you personally contribute to environmental problems; and
- 6) understand how each individual can reduce their personal environmental impact, if they choose.

We will emphasize as much as possible those aspects of environmental geology that are particularly applicable to Long Island and Metropolitan New York.

GRADING

EXAMS

There will be four one-hour exams worth up to 100 points each.

- Cell phones must be **turned off** and **enclosed** in a case, book bag, briefcase, or the like during exams.
- You **may not** use calculators or dictionaries during an exam.

MAKE UP EXAM

A cumulative make up exam can be taken during the Final Exam period to replace the hour exam with the lowest grade or a missed exam.

GRADE

Your grade for the course will be based on four exams each worth 100 points plus all bonus points. Grading for the course will be based on curving the four exams. The earned bonus points will then be added. The grade you receive for the course will be determined by the number of points you have accumulated from the four exams plus all bonus points. A student who achieved 40 bonus points could potentially increase their grade by one whole grade, for example from a C+ to a B+.

BONUS POINTS

WORKSHOPS -

Workshops meet Mon. 1 to 2, Tues. 11:30 to 12:30, Wed. 2:30 to 3:30 and Thurs. 11:30 to 12:30 in ESS 105. These workshops will provide an opportunity for students to review concepts presented in class, news articles, handouts, videos and the textbook. This will also give you an opportunity to meet other students and participate in a study group, if you choose. While you may attend more, you can only receive bonus points for attending two workshops per week. To receive bonus points it is essential that you attend for the full duration of the workshop. You will receive:

- **Three bonus points** for the first two workshops that you attend.
- **Two bonus points** for the next two workshops that you attend
- **One bonus point** for each workshop that you attend thereafter.

You could potentially receive up to 32 bonus points if you attended two workshops each week. The workshops will begin the week of September 10.

FIELD TRIPS - 3 Bonus Points

There will be regular field trips on or near campus during Campus Life Time on Wednesdays. They will start at 12:50 p.m. and will return by 2:10 p.m. If you choose to go on a field trip, you must register in the Department of Geosciences office (room ESS 255) by Tuesday 4:30 p.m. the day before the field trip. Come to room ESS 105 ready to leave by 12:50 p.m. To receive the bonus points you must hand in answers to questions asked regarding the field trip. Dress appropriately for a field trip. Especially have good shoes for walking. Each field trip will be given two times. You may receive bonus points for only one of the two field trips. First field trip is Wednesday September 12.

GEOLOGY OPEN NIGHT – 2 Bonus Points

Geology Open Night meets on Friday September 28, Friday October 26 and Friday November 30 at 7:30 p.m. in ESS 001. Visit the web site for more information about the presentations at www.geo.sunysb.edu/openight.

OUR ENVIRONMENT – 2 Bonus Points

Our Environment meets on Friday October 19 and November 16 at 7:30 in ESS 001.

ORDER OF TOPICS FOR GEO 101 FALL, 2007

| Topic | Reading |
|--|----------|
| Foundations of Environmental Geology Philosophy and Fundamental Concepts | Chap. 1 |
| Soils and Environment | Chap. 15 |
| Water Resources | Chap. 11 |
| Water Pollution | Chap. 12 |
| Long Island and NYC Water | Handouts |
| Wetlands | Handouts |
| Mineral Resources | Chap. 13 |
| Energy Resources | Chap. 14 |
| Geology Society and the Future | Chap. 16 |
| Air Pollution | Chap. 17 |
| Global Climate Change | Chap. 18 |

In addition to the above topics we will include any current environmental geology topics in the news. Examinations will cover material in the text, lecture, videos, handouts and news articles. There will be a review session in the workshops prior to each exam.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wed. Sept. 5 - First day of class

Fri. September 14 No Class Rosh Hashanah

Fri. September 28 **Exam 1**

Fri. October 26 - **Exam 2**

Mon. November 5 - Last day to withdraw from a course or to change a course to or from pass/no credit

Mon. November 19 - **Exam 3**

Fri. November 23 – NO CLASS Thanksgiving Break

Wed. December 12 - **Exam 4**

Mon December 17 (2 to 3 p.m.) - **Make up exam**