



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

Course Prefix, Number and Title: Geol 101 – Earth Processes, Resources, and the Environment

Course CRN # and Section: 20255 (lecture), 20258 (lab), Section 30

Semester Taught (including year): Spring 2019

Professor: Jennifer Phillippe

Credit Hours: 4

Office Location: SCI 402B

Prerequisites: none

**Office Hours: W 9-11, 1-3 & R 11-1
(Beckley) M 6-7pm & W 6-7pm
Or by appointment**

**Course Time (if applicable): 7:00 – 9:30pm W (lecture)
7:00 – 8:50 pm M (lab)**

Email: jphillippe@concord.edu

Building and Room Number (if applicable): E36 (lecture) or E15 (lab)

Phone: 304-384-5157

Office Fax: 304-384-6022

**College/Department Website
<http://www.concord.edu/physci/>**

Course Description/Rationale: Some the biggest issues that will affect us this century are related to the availability of natural resources and the condition of Earth's environment. As population grows, non-renewable resources are depleted and important parts of the natural environment are altered. In short, resources, the environment, and human development seem to be at odds with one another. To evaluate these issues, it is important to understand how the Earth works, since it is the source of all resources. This course is an introduction to the Earth for both science and non-science majors. The course examines the Earth as an integrated system focusing on connections between natural processes and different branches of science.

Course Management System (Blackboard/Moodle or other systems): Moodle

Hardware/Software Needed (include privacy policies, if applicable): none

Text requirements: Merritts, D., Menking, K., and De Wet, A., 2014, *Environmental Geology – An Earth Systems Science Approach*, 2nd ed.

Concord University Educational Goal(s) The educational programs of Concord University are designed to foster skills, knowledge, and attitudes. As a general education course, Geol 101 directly addresses and assesses the following three educational goals: Skills (1.2), An ability to employ observational, logical, analytical, and critical thinking skills to problem solving; Knowledge (2.2), An awareness of the fundamental characteristics and properties of the physical universe; Knowledge (2.3), An ability to interpret events and trends within historical contexts. The course also addresses aspects of other educational goals, including 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 2.5, 3.1, and 3.7.

National Standards: None

Specific Learning Outcomes:

1. Synthesize and integrate knowledge & experiences to solve problems in the geological sciences.
2. Be able to communicate complex scientific concepts for a variety of audiences.
3. Conduct their work and report results in an ethical, safe, responsible & professional manner.

Course Requirements

Ability to regularly attend class, take detailed notes, read and study a college-level textbook, and complete college-level laboratory work and homework assignments.

“Eighty percent of success is showing up” – Woody Allen

Instruction in this course will include lectures extensively supplemented by discussions, case studies, and miscellaneous activities/assignments that require critical thought and analysis. Some will be homework assignments, including problem sets and exercises requiring access to the internet (e.g., use of Google Earth, Moodle, etc), and many will be completed in class. Lab work emphasizes observation, description, and deduction. Writing is required throughout the course.

Miscellaneous Assignments and Quizzes: Numerous short, in-class exercises, quizzes, and/or homework problems will be assigned throughout the semester (generally 1 to 3 per week). If you are absent for an in-class exercise or quiz (whether excused or unexcused), then you will receive a zero for the assignment. Please note that the lowest grade in this category are dropped. Short quizzes on Moodle will be scheduled most weeks. These are open book with unlimited time, so be sure to complete them as they are generally worth 10 pts. Most other assignments will be graded on a 5-point scale as follows: 5 pts. -Excellent; 4 pts. -Mostly correct; 3 pts. -Could use some additional support for answers; <3 pts. Significant improvement required – see instructor for help!

Lecture Periods: Weekly textbook reading assignments should be read at the beginning of each week or before each week begins to maximize learning during each class or lab period. We will often start off with questions from the readings (and possibly a quiz). If you find yourself lost or confused during lectures, it is probably because you are behind in your reading. If this is not the case, however, please come see me sooner rather than later. I want you to succeed. Lectures will not necessarily follow everything in the textbook. The textbook is a supplement to lectures and is not a substitute for a good set of class notes; however, all students MUST own, borrow, or have rented a copy of the textbook for the semester.

Independent Project: As part of this course, you will develop a question to explore further on a topic of your choosing related to the course material. After choosing a question, you will design and carryout your research (I am using this term very broadly). Upon completion of your project, you will prepare a paper

and presentation summarizing the questions, methods, results, and conclusions that you reached. Additional information regarding this project will be provided throughout the semester and the milestones are shown on the course timeline. Everyone is a scientist, but this is not a project that should be left to the end of the semester.

Exams: It is impossible to learn geology by reading the book the night before each exam. There is just too much specialized vocabulary. It is highly recommended that you follow a regular study and reading schedule to keep up with the material. As a general guideline, you should be completing 2-3 hours of homework and reading for each hour of instruction in class. I suggest working the end-chapter review

questions in your text as ungraded homework. There is a list of key terms that you should be prepared to define, a list of review questions to answer, and some additional thought questions. Some of these show up on your exams. You must have a good knowledge of specialized geologic terms to understand, solve, and answer exam questions.

Field Trips: Participation in the off-campus field trips require signing a waiver of liability. If you do not participate, you will not be able to receive credit for lab work based upon a field trip. Make-ups are not possible.

Attendance: Attendance is strongly recommended for this lecture and is required for the laboratory. You must receive a passing grade (60%) in lab in order to pass the class. I really don't recommend skipping class, because the easiest way to fail a class is through routine absence.

Email: You are welcome to contact me through email or the Moodle forum. However, if it is through email, please include GEOL 101 as part of the subject line so that I don't miss the message. Please write your questions using complete sentences with capital letters and punctuation. Please use your university email account so that messages do not end up caught in the spam filter. I make every effort to respond as quickly as possible; however, please give me 24 hours before following up again.

Internet Requirements and Moodle site: I will be using Moodle to offer lecture slides, notes, assignments, and other items of interest. Your MyCU login will grant you access to the site. As a general rule, you should check Moodle **every day**.

Technology in Class: Use of headphones/ear buds, cell phones, and other electronic devices, other than a calculator or tablet/laptop are prohibited. If you are using a laptop or tablet computer during class, it should be for class not facebook, texting, tweeting, surfing, etc. You will be asked to stop on the first offense and continued use will result in being asked to leave the class room. Photography and internet usage is strictly forbidden during exams. If you are found violating this restriction during an exam, you will be removed from the exam, assigned a zero, and face charges of academic dishonesty (see below).

Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work

Final course grades will be weighted as follows:

Lab (equal weight per lab; lowest grade dropped)	20%
Misc. Assignments and quizzes (lowest grade dropped)	20%
Independent Project	10%
Regular exams (3 @ 10% each)	30%
Final Exam (comprehensive)	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Your final course grade will be determined by your total average score at the end of the course:

A	90-100%	Indicates superior performance and thorough understanding of class material
B	80-89%	Indicates good performance and above average understanding of class material
C	70-79%	Indicates average performance and an adequate understanding of class material
D	60-69%	Indicates below average performance or incomplete understanding of material
F	<60%	Inadequate performance

Make-up Policy: You must be present for each exam or lab. Make-up exams and labs are highly discouraged and will be considered for approval only with appropriate pre-notification. Approved make-up exams will be different than the original, and must be completed within 48 hours of the originally scheduled exam. Make-up exams will only be considered in the case of a written medical emergency or a preapproved University activity. Most labs require materials and instruction that will only be present only during scheduled lab hours. There are no makeup labs and you must be present in lab to turn in your lab. No late labs will be accepted. Your lowest lab grade is dropped so if you are ill or absolutely must miss one lab week, the zero will be your dropped grade and not included in final grade calculations.

Late Assignment Policy: Late work will not be accepted. Internet outages will not be accepted as an excuse for late work and I will not reopen Moodle quizzes, so please don't ask. Plan ahead. The lowest lab grade and the lowest quiz/miscellaneous assignment grades are dropped – use these wisely since you never know when you might need a sick day.



Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)

Day	Reading	Lecture Topics	Lab Topics	Exams/Projects
Jan 14 th Week #1	Ch 1	Meet the Earth	Scientific Reasoning & Measurements	
Jan 21 st Week #2	Ch 4	Rocks and Minerals	No lab – MLK Jr. Day	Topic and Question
Jan 28 th Week #3	Ch 2	Plate Tectonics	Mineral Identification	
Feb 4 th Week #4	Ch 3	Earthquakes	Rock Identification	Research Outline
Feb 11 th Week #5	Ch 5	Volcanoes	Plate Tectonics	
Feb 18 th Week #6	Ch 6	Geologic Time	Earthquakes	Exam #1 (Ch 1-5)
Feb 25 th Week #7	Ch 8	Soil and Weathering	Geologic Time	
Mar 4 th Week #8	Ch 9	Surface Water	Flooding	Rough Draft
Mar 11 th Week #9	Spring Break			
Mar 18 th Week #10	Ch 10	Groundwater	Porosity and Permeability	
Mar 25 th Week #11	Ch 12	Oceans	Ocean circulation	Exam #2 (Ch 6, 8, 9, & 10)
Apr 1 st Week #12	Ch 11	Atmosphere	Topographic Maps I	
Apr 8 th Week #13	Ch 13	Energy	Topographic Maps II	Final Paper
Apr 15 th Week #14	Ch14	Climate Change	Glaciers	
Apr 22 nd Week #15	Ch 15	Human Impact on Environment	Sustainability	Exam #3 (Ch 11-14)
Apr 29 th Week #16	Online readings	Sustainability	Presentations	
May 6 th	Comprehensive FINAL EXAM at 7 pm			

Accessibility/Accommodations:

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Concord University Honor Code

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

Class/Online Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Emergency Alert System

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

Emergency Information

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:

<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

Inclement Weather Policy

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

**Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

Student Conduct

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

Sexual Harassment & Assault

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or titleix@concord.edu. Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

Technology Services

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail cuhelpdesk@concord.edu.

Syllabus Disclaimer

"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."