University of Rhode Island - Department of Geosciences
GEO 100G: Environmental Geology, Summer 2019
M-T-W-Th 10:00am – 11:45am
Pastore Hall 219

Instructor: Morgan Haldeman
Email: morganhaldeman@uri.edu
Office: 339 Woodward Hall
Office Hours: M-T-W 12pm – 12:45pm or by appointment

This course is a general education elective for undergraduate students and therefore has no prerequisites.

Course Description:

GEO 100G is an introduction to geology, emphasizing the interaction between the Earth and its human population. In this course, you will evaluate the solid earth, natural hazards (e.g. earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides), natural resources (e.g. oil and coal), air and water pollution, and the effects of climate change on our global landscapes.

Course Goals:

Successful completion of GEO 100G will result in the full coverage of two outcomes in the current URI general education program:

- Outcome A1 – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) knowledge
- Outcome C2 – Global Responsibilities

To achieve these goals, students will:

- Describe the Earth, its structure, and the many physical characteristics that make it a fascinating, yet sometimes dangerous, place to live.
- Assess the many environmental problems that face us as our planet’s population grows

GEO 100G is a Grand Challenge course, in which students will explore global, environmental issues from multiple perspectives – including ethical implications.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, each student will be able to:

- Identify important geologic terms
- Recognize concepts and tools relevant to geologic tasks, e.g. mineral identification
- Ask questions, collect information, and analyze data related to environmental geology topics, e.g. the relationship between earthquakes and tectonic boundaries
- Understand the environmental impact of practices in the United States and compare these practices to those of other countries
- Use international communication to convey important environmental issues
- Synthesize knowledge of global environmental issues in order to make appropriate decisions
Required Materials:

  - Note: You do NOT have to purchase the book if you cannot afford it. You can rent the book, find a pdf, or borrow from a classmate. As long as you have access, you’re good!!
- ‘Hazard City’ package
  - Available free with purchase of the above textbook from the URI bookstore
- Access to the internet outside of the classroom
  - Necessary for the completion of certain homework exercises

Grading:

- Attendance: 40%
- Homework/Hazard City assignments: 40%
- Midterm Exam: 10%
- Final Exam: 10%

**Grading scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
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Note that, in order to pass this class, you must have a final grade of D or higher. Grades of ‘incomplete’ will not be assigned except in cases of emergency, which must be approved by both the Department Chair and the Dean.

- Your grades will be posted regularly using the ‘gradebook’ function in Sakai. Please keep track of your grades, as it will help you to succeed!
- You will not get credit for homework completed during class. All homework must be submitted BEFORE class or by the designated time! **I do not accept late assignments! If you need extra time on an assignment, you must email me with the proper paperwork granting you the excused absence.**
- **I do NOT round grades,** so please do not ask! It is unfair and frankly disrespectful to the other students in your class.

General Information:

*Note: The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time.*

- To be properly prepared for class, please read the relevant textbook chapter prior to class time. Online support materials for Introduction to Environmental Geology can be found on the Prentice Hall website: [MyGeosciencePlace.com](https://www.mygeoscienceplace.com)
- Lecture overheads and other course-related information will be available in the Resources tab on Sakai ([https://sakai.uri.edu](https://sakai.uri.edu)).
- Positive participation does not ‘cancel out’ negative participation!
- You may not be admitted if you arrive late for an exam that another student has already completed and left.
• Packing up before class has ended is RUDE and DISTRACTING. I will promise not to go overtime if you promise not to pack up before I’ve dismissed you.

• Notifications of class cancellation, schedule changes, and exam reminders will be posted using the ‘Announcements’ tool in Sakai. Please keep a close eye on both this tool and your email to be fully informed of class updates.

• Attendance is expected and may be confirmed via participation in mini-quizzes or in-class assignments. Missed mini-quizzes or in-class assignments will count as a zero (F) unless you have an excused absence.
  o In the event of illness, you must either contact me prior to the missed class, or provide doctor’s documentation after the fact. Other excuses will be handled on a case-by-case basis. You must contact me within 24 hours of the missed class, else your absence will be considered unexcused.
    ▪ If you are sick – neither I nor your classmates want the flu. If you have the flu or some other extraordinarily unpleasant contagious illness, please do not come to class and inform me ahead of time so that we can all stock up on orange juice.
  o I do not provide make-up assignments, but in the case of an excused absence, I may drop the assignment from your average.

• All students are expected to abide by the University of Rhode Island Academic Honesty Policy (http://www.uri.edu/judicial/Student%20Handbook/ch1.html).
  o All submitted work MUST be your own. Should you consult other sources (e.g. class readings, articles/books from the library, academic journals, websites) you MUST cite these properly. Uncited sources will cause you to be charged with plagiarism and you will receive an F (0 points) on the assignment. In certain cases, plagiarism may result in a complete failure of the course.
  o All charges of academic dishonesty will go on your record in the Office of Student Life.
  o For information about what may constitute plagiarism, please visit the following:
    ▪ Georgetown University - http://gervaseprograms.georgetown.edu/hc/plagiarism.html

Technology:
• It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to make sure you submit the correct file in the correct format. I do NOT accept google docs links or .pages files! If you send me a file in either of these formats, you will be given a zero. Documents must be submitted in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format.

• This course often relies on technology. Homework assignments, readings, and other materials will be uploaded and submitted electronically. Sometimes, when working with computers, things can go wrong – computers crash, servers go down, files get lost. These are normal aspects of working with technology and will NOT be acceptable excuses for
late work or missed assignments! Please be sure to regularly back up your work and complete your assignments well in advance so you can avoid these problems.

- Cell phone and computer use during class should be limited to course-based materials. Texting, Facebooking, tweeting, and other forms of social media use during the class period are deeply frowned upon.
- Use of electronic equipment (cell phones, computers, etc.) is not permitted during exams and will result in a failed grade, as well as a report of academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Life.

Email Etiquette:

- **Check the syllabus** and all announcements before emailing me with your question! If your question can be answered by the syllabus or the announcements, I will not reply.
- I expect emails to be professionally written. You must include a greeting (that spells my name correctly!), tell me which class you are in (in our case, GEO100G 10am), a SHORT message explaining what you need, and your full name. **I will not reply to emails that do not follow this format!**

The University of Rhode Island accords students, on an individual basis, the opportunity to observe their traditional religious holidays. Students desiring to observe a holiday of special importance beyond that noted in the academic calendar must provide me with a written notification (email is fine) at **least 24 hours prior** to the missed class.

Note: Just because this is ‘only’ a 3-credit class, do not expect that you will be able to just skate by. I do expect you to study and complete your assignments on time! You should expect to spend approximately three hours outside of class per week working on course assignments. This time estimation may change between assignments.

Disability Accommodations:
Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to contact me as early in the semester as possible so that we can arrange reasonable accommodations. I will require notification from the Disability Services for Students Office (330 Memorial Union, 401-874-2089) as part of this process.

Discrimination Policy:
I do not tolerate any racial, sexual, gender-based, or disability-based discrimination in this class. If you notice any of these (or others not mentioned above), please bring it to my attention so that I can take the appropriate actions.

Furthermore, if there are any students who would like me to address them by a certain name / pronoun, please inform me either by email or in person. This notification is considered confidential between myself and the student unless the student indicates otherwise.

Early Alert:
As an instructor, my primary use of the Early Alert system will happen only if a student regularly misses class or assignments, which may lead to their failure of the class. In this case, I would send a referral to the student’s academic advisor using the Early Alert referral form.

For further information, please see the Early Alert site: [https://web.uri.edu/earlyalert/](https://web.uri.edu/earlyalert/)
Hazard City Assignments:

Throughout the semester you will be completing Hazard City online activities. The Hazard City exercises were bundled with the textbook if you purchased a new textbook from the URI Bookstore. If you would like to purchase access separately, you can do so via MasteringGeology.com.

To access Hazard City:

1. Go to MasteringGeology.com. Under the large Register Now section on the right side of the page, click the Student button.
2. Read the onscreen instructions and select your location. Next, check off whether or not you have an Access Code. Click Next.
3. You’ll be asked to Accept the License Agreement before moving on.
4. After this, either Create a new Pearson username/password, or, if you’ve already registered for another Pearson product (e.g. MyMathLab), enter that username/password. If you have an Access Code, enter it on the bottom of the page.
   a. Your Access Code should look similar to: PSYHSC-CRISS-MESSY-SOLAR-INGOT-ACHED
5. On the next page, fill out the appropriate information fields, then click Next. If you entered an Access Code, you will be brought to a page from which you can access your product.
6. You are now registered! Now, it’s time to enroll in your course. Click Log In Now. Once signed in, you can enter your Course ID: GEO100GSUMMERHALDEMAN
7. If you experience any problems, please contact our Pearson representative Erin Smith at erin.smith@pearson.com.
## GEO 100G Summer 2019 Class Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Atmosphere</td>
<td>Hydrosphere</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Geologic Time</td>
<td>Absolute Dating</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Elements (cont’d)</td>
<td>Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sedimentary Rocks</td>
<td>Igneous Rocks</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Metamorphic Rocks</td>
<td>Plate Tectonics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Class cancelled – Independence Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Make-up Class</td>
<td>Volcanoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Watersheds</td>
<td>Groundwater</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Groundwater (cont’d)</td>
<td>Rivers</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Coastal Processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Mineral Resources</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Energy Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
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*Schedule subject to change at instructor’s discretion pending class progress.*