MAYVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Geol 115L Introductory Geology Lab

Jeff Hovde

Fall 2024

Semester Hours: 1

Contact Info:

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Hours of availability: By appointment
Instruction Mode: Face to Face
Meeting Times and Locations: Tu 2:00 – 3:50 p.m.

Course Description: An introductory course lab which includes principles of physical and historical geography in three hours of lecture and a lab with field. Topics include rock and mineral classification, plate tectonics, processes that shape the Earth's surface, the origin of the Earth, history of the land masses, and evolution of plant and animal life.

Purpose of the Course

The purposes of Introductory Geology Lab include meeting the expectations of a MSU and North Dakota University System 'general education laboratory science' requirement and System 'common course', developing an understanding of basic geological principles, laying the foundation for future science courses, and developing a general appreciation of geology (and science) and its role in today's society.

Course Objectives

The goals of the MSU Science program are to present current information on aspects of the physical world and to develop logical reasoning, sometimes mathematical, relating one process to another. Introductory Geology prepares students to explain the basic principles of geology and its relationships to other disciplines, to describe different scientific models and how these models are used to stimulate scientific inquiry, and to identify the assumptions and limitations of scientific writing/reporting.

Students who have completed this course should as aligned to Composite Science Education Program Approval Standards through North Dakota's Education Standards and Practices Board (ND ESPB):

1. Understand how tectonic and hydrologic systems have played a major part in the Earth's history.
2. Identify rocks and minerals based on characteristics and describe the conditions necessary to form them.
3. Understand the connection between volcanoes, earthquakes, and plate tectonics..
4. Identify and correctly use geological terminology.
5. Acquire an appreciation for the timescale in which geological events occur.

Standards Alignment (Composite Science Education Program Approval Standards-ND ESPB):

- 13047.1 Composite Science Major/General Science The composite/general science program requires that environmental science be incorporated within other courses or as a separate course. The composite/general science program requires:1. Coursework in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science, including: a. Minimum of twenty four semester hours in one area, b. Minimum of twelve semester hours in two other areas, c. Minimum of four semester hours in the fourth area, d. Courses must be from those that the institution allows toward graduation in the science major. 2. Study of mathematics through the pre-calculus level (college algebra and above) and statistics

Program Student Learning Outcomes Addressed in This Course

The Academic Program Student Learning Outcomes document can be found in your course shell. It contains all learning outcomes pertaining to Essential Studies courses and all majors and minors. The document has an index, so you can quickly find the degree you are pursuing.

As part of Mayville State's effort to demonstrate continuous improvement in achieving student learning outcomes, this course:

☒ introduces SLO # 4	☐ introduces SLO #3	☐ introduces SLO # 4	☐ introduces SLO #
☐ reinforces SLO #	☐ reinforces SLO #	☐ reinforces SLO #	☐ reinforces SLO #
☐ masters SLO #	☐ masters SLO #	☐ masters SLO #	☐ masters SLO #
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As part of Mayville State's effort to demonstrate continuous improvement in achieving Essential Studies Learning Outcomes, this course will assess

ELO # ☐1 ☐2 ☐3 ☐4

as part of the Essential Studies and Capstone Courses. As part of Mayville State University's Essential Studies curriculum, this course seeks to prepare students for twenty-first century challenges by gaining: 1) Knowledge of human cultures; 2) Intellectual and practical skills; 3) Personal and social responsibility; 4) Integrative and applied learning.

The assessment activity will involve essay questions.

Course Improvements Based on Most Recent Assessment Findings

This course will be assessed in the future (based on the 2019-2025 assessment curriculum map) and the findings will be reported in this syllabus.

Required/Recommended Materials

Required Texts:

Owen, C., Pirie, D., & Draper, G. (2011). *Earth Lab: Exploring the Earth Sciences* (3rd ed.). Belmont: Brooks/Cole.

Learning Experiences

- Read all assignments prior to class, including chapters as noted, research articles, etc.
- Assignments will be given in class. Submit all assignments in Blackboard on designated due dates.

Expectations/Protocols

There will be NO make-up quizzes or tests given unless I have been contacted prior to the day of the test with a valid University approved excuse. There are very few University approved excuses so do not assume that your excuse is sufficient.

I do not accept any late work.

Do not email me to inform me of the grade you need for the course.

I will reply to all student emails within 48 hours. Email is the best way to contact me. I will grade any necessary assignment within 48 hours.

Instructor/Student Communication

- Students are accountable for all academic communications sent to their Mayville State University e-mail address.
- I will communicate through email and announcements in Blackboard.

Course Grading:

Total Points

90 – 100%	A
80 – 89.9%	B
70 – 79.9%	C
60 – 69.9%	D

Final Test: None

Important Student Information

Navigate to Blackboard > MaSU tab > Student Resources tab to find a document entitled, "Important Student Information," which includes information about:

- ✓ Academic Grievance Concerns and Instructor English Proficiency
- ✓ Starfish - Student Success System
- ✓ Students with Documented Disabilities
- ✓ Academic Honesty
- ✓ Emergency Notification
- ✓ Continuity of Academic Instruction for a Pandemic or Emergency
- ✓ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
- ✓ Diversity Statement

A listing of important University policies related to courses and coursework, *Important Student Information*, is posted on the class Blackboard site.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information for On-Campus Courses

The health and safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our top priority. Mayville State University is committed to resuming face-to-face instruction on campus beginning with the fall semester of 2020. Please refer to the *Fall 2020 COVID-19 Classroom Guidelines for On-Campus Courses* document for additional information regarding classroom expectations and modifications necessary to minimize exposure risk and promote health and safety for students and faculty within on-campus classes.

In the event that a rebound in COVID-19 local infections necessitates a change in course format, plans for remote options for this course include asynchronous labs.

The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change with prior notice given to students in the event of extenuating circumstances.