

GEOLOGY 132-03: Geologic Hazards and Resources
SYLLABUS FOR SPRING SEMESTER 2008

Course Number: Geology 132-03 : 3 credit hours

Time and Place: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM

Instructor Information: Dr.Charles Shaw

Contact Information: Office: 314 Lee Drain Building (LDB)
Office Hours: MW 10:00-11:00, Tues 11:00-12:00
Phone: 936-294-1560
E-mail: ces023@shsu.edu

Text: Geologic Hazards and Resources eBook. 1st Ed., Netoff, D. I., Baldwin, C., Cooper, B., Degenhardt, J. J., and Solum, J. P., 2007. The Start Group.

Supplementary Readings: Lab manual (required for GEL 112): Geologic Hazards and Resources..., Baldwin, C., Cooper, B., Netoff, D. I, Solum, J. and Degenhardt, J., 2007. The Start Group.

Geology and the Environment. 4th Ed., Pipkin, B. W., Trent, D. D. and Hazlett, R., 2005. Thompson Learning, Inc., Brooks/Cole.

Any additional reference material will be assigned in class.

Supplies: Scantron test forms (100-question version 882ES), notebook, pen, pencil, calculator.

Course Description: An introduction to the interrelationship between humans and the geologic environment. The course focuses on geologic materials, resources, and processes, and how they affect people and the environment. Specific topics include geologic hazards related to volcanism, landslides, subsidence, collapse, floods, earthquakes, and coastal processes. Geologic resources such as minerals, energy and water will also be discussed.

Course Objectives: The goal is to enable the student to: 1) demonstrate an awareness of the interaction between geologic materials, resources, processes, and human activities; 2) propose ways of solving related environmental problems; and 3) analyze specific earth hazards and recommend ways of coping with them through recognition of their potential, predicting their occurrence, and in some cases, controlling them.

Methods of Instruction: Lectures for this course will be delivered by means of PowerPoint presentations and an occasional video. They will be scheduled to coincide as closely as possible to activities that are undertaken in lab (GEL 112). **It is my intent to make the PowerPoint lectures available on the Blackboard course website.**

Grading and Assessment

4 Exams of 50 multiple choice questions @ 100 pts each - 400 points

Homework: For your use as a study guide, not directly part of your grade.

A separate study guide will be available to help you prepare for tests.

See course schedule.

Exercises: Exercises are problems that will assist you in learning to think like a scientist. They must be turned in at the time posted and they will be graded. The total number will be determined as we proceed. 100 points.

Total points: 500

Grading Scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69%

Attendance and Make-up Policies: The SHSU Undergraduate Catalog states that "Regular and punctual attendance is expected for each student at Sam Houston State University." Accordingly, the University requires each instructor to keep a record of student attendance.. In order for an absence to be excused, **some form of documentation MUST be provided.**

Make-up exercises and exams will only be allowed with my approval.

Make arrangements in advance

Academic Honesty:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Students are encouraged to study in groups to prepare for exams. However, "group effort" is definitely not permitted when taking exams! This will result in an automatic zero on a test and possible action at the departmental level.

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM: *Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.*

Americans with Disabilities Act: *SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. Note: No*

accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. Therefore, any student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities in a timely manner and complete a form that will grant permission to receive special accommodations.

Special Circumstances: If unusual circumstances arise during the semester, such as a medical problem, death in the family, etc., that adversely affects your attendance PLEASE **discuss this with me immediately and provide documentation.** Under these conditions, I will gladly do my best to accommodate your situation by excusing absences, allowing late work to be turned in within a reasonable time period

