

Physical Geology 1 Course Syllabus Spring 2009

Geology 1 is the foundation course for geologic science and is the first course in geology for both geology majors and non-majors. For this course to transfer to 4-year colleges and universities, you must learn and become proficient in Chapters 1-24 of the course textbook. *It is your responsibility to learn this material, and to assist you with learning the material, you have the following tools:*

- 📖 + 😊 Course textbook with CD-ROM - *very well done*
- 📺 the Earth Revealed video series on reserve in the LPC LRC
- 📖 a course Study Guide; written by the instructor and containing practice exam questions
- 💻 online photo collections (*see the following syllabus pages for details*)
- 👉 the LPC Tutorial Center – it’s free for students currently enrolled at LPC
- 💻 the LPC Computer Center (*for assistance with how to run the course Blackboard software*)
- 🕒 all required course exams are available from the beginning of the term until their timeout dates
- ∞ all required course exams may be taken an unlimited number of times before their timeout dates
- 📺 a great collection of Geology videos in the LPC LRC (*see the green study guide for details*)
- 💻 excellent general-public-access online websites with basic geologic explanations and photos
- 💻 Professor Hanna’s Geology website: <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/hanna/index.htm>

Required Materials: Text with CD-ROM: *Earth, An Introduction to Physical Geology, 9th ed* by Tarbuck and Lutgens; Physical Geology Study Guide by RL Hanna; a booklight; colored pencils; and an LPC Computer Access/Print Card. Access to a computer with an internet connection. Computer must be able to run the campus distance education software called Blackboard. The student will have to use the campus Computer Center if the student’s personal computer and/or ISP does not work appropriately with the campus website or campus distance education software.

Exam/Assignment/Quiz	Student Target Date for Completion	Timeout Date <i>-no extensions</i>	Points possible
Required Blackboard ‘Check-In’ Survey	by or before Jan 29	noon, Jan 29	-
Vocabulary Quiz	by or before Feb 11	noon, Feb 19	100 points
Module 1 Exam	by or before Feb 9	noon, March 5	100 points
Module 2 Exam	by or before Feb 23	noon, March 5	100 points
Module 3 Exam	by or before Mar 9	noon, April 2	100 points
Module 4 Exam	by or before Mar 23	noon, April 2	100 points
Module 5 Exam	by or before Apr 6	noon, April 30	100 points
Module 6 Exam	by or before Apr 20	noon, April 30	100 points
Module 7 Exam	by or before May 4	noon, May 28	100 points
Module 8 Exam	by or before May 18	noon, May 28	200 points
TOTAL			1000 points

All of the required major exams are available from the beginning of the term until their timeout date:

- All of these exams are comprehensive and include questions from previous topics and modules.
- The Module 8 Exam is in 2 parts. Part 1 is the first 20 points (10 questions). When you have scored 18 or higher on Part 1, then Part 2 will become available. Part 2 is worth 180 points. Part 2 will also become available 2 weeks before the timeout date, regardless of whether or not you have attempted Part 1.
- Because all of the required major (100 or 200 points each) exams in this class are available for weeks (or months), and because they can be taken an unlimited number of times before the timeout dates, there are no makeup exams.
- Plan ahead and do not miss an exam because you waited until the last minute.

Physical Geology 1 Where To Start?

STEP 1: Print and then read the Course Syllabus

- a printed copy will be available for each student at the introductory class meeting
- students who were not able to come to the introductory class meeting can print the syllabus from Prof. Hanna's website (go to the LPC website and then to the list of Faculty Websites.)

You can also print the course semester calendar in color if you wish: Go to Prof. Hanna's website and click on the link to the 'Semester Calendar'. The file will open in Adobe Acrobat reader and you can then print the page in color if you have access to a color printer.

STEP 2: Login to Blackboard

- make sure that you know how to use the software and that you know how to find the course exams (*see the syllabus for details and instructions*)
- change your Blackboard password and email information

STEP 3: Take the Required 'Check-In' Survey Quiz before the deadline (*see the front page of the syllabus for the deadline*). Failure to take this quiz before the deadline may result in being dropped from the course (*see the following pages for the instructor's drop policies*). The quiz is online - on Blackboard.

STEP 4: Start studying and working your way through the exams and modules

- use the Module Checklists at the end of the syllabus

STEP 5: Finish all Exams/Quizzes before they time out

- *see the deadline dates and course calendars in the syllabus*

Of all of the college courses that are available for freshmen and sophomores, Physical Geology 1 is one of the best because of the wide variety of high-quality materials available for the student.

Examples include:

- the clearly presented material in the textbook (with clear diagrams and photos)
- the interactive, high quality CD-ROM that comes with the course textbook
- the award-winning geology videos available in the LPC library

Very few courses have this range and depth of high quality material available for students to take advantage of. Add in the fact that the course includes interesting topics such as Earthquakes, Volcanoes, the basic geology of Hawaii, etc.... and Physical Geology 1 is a course that students can succeed with if they are willing to study.

Geo 9 - highly recommended by past Geo 1 students: Geology 9 is a 1 unit Geology study course for students enrolled in Geology 1 or 1lab. Distance Education classes can feel 'lonely' for the solitary student - Geo 9 allows geology students to study in an open, collaborative environment. In the past students who enrolled in this study course have earned exam scores that averaged 10% higher than students who were not enrolled in Geology 9. *Unfortunately, Geology 9 is not offered every term, so check your class schedule listings to see if this helpful class is offered this term. If it is, take advantage of it!*

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Add Policies:

- Students who add must meet the same deadlines as the students who were pre-enrolled.
- Note: You will not be able to logon to Blackboard and complete any of the online exams until you have completed the Add process (submitted your add number, paid for the class, etc.).
- Students who add do not get extensions on exam or course deadlines.

Drop Policies:

1. First, if the student wants to drop this course before the NGR or W date, then it is the student's responsibility to follow the drop procedures and deadlines posted by the LPC A&R (Admissions and Records) office. It is not the instructor's responsibility to drop the student before the NGR or W date.

If a student enrolls in a course and does not complete enough work to earn a passing grade, then the student will earn an F in the course. If a student enrolls in a course and never attends, it is the student's responsibility to drop the course before the appropriate deadlines (NGR or W) in order to prevent an F on their transcript.

2. The instructor may choose to drop students who are not attending or are not completing the necessary course work by the deadlines specified in the course syllabus. Please note that this is the instructor's option – and not a guarantee that the instructor will take care of the drop procedure for the student. If a student wants to ensure that they are dropped from a course, then the student must complete the drop procedure themselves (and not assume that the instructor will do it for them).

3. In this course, I plan to

Drop all students who have not completed the online Blackboard 'Check-In' Survey before the timeout deadline stated on the front page of the syllabus. If you are dropped for not taking this survey before the deadline, but you still wish to remain in the class, you will have to come to my regularly scheduled office hours on-campus and speak with me about getting an Add Number so that you can re-enroll. I will not give you an add number via the telephone or via e-mail; once you have been dropped, I want to speak with you in person about re-entering the course. Once you have the add number, you will have to re-enroll before the Add/Drop/NGR deadline as stated in the LPC Academic Calendar (see your course schedule or the school's website for the dates).

- ⇒ W-drop students who missed (didn't take and never opened the online exams for)
- at least one of the first 3 100-point exams (Vocab Quiz, Module 1 and/or Module 2)
 - and BOTH of the 100-point exams for Modules 3 and 4
 - please note, that if you open a Blackboard online exam (even once), then this counts as having taken the exam (even if you don't finish the exam and/or don't answer any of the questions).

4. **NEVER ASSUME that the instructor will take care of dropping you from a class.** Sometimes, an instructor may miss a name when going through the drop lists. If you want to make sure that you get dropped – then make sure that you take care of the drop paperwork yourself. It is your responsibility.

5. If A&R (Admissions and Records) drops you because you failed to pay your fees (or fines or such), it is your responsibility to get this matter resolved in a timely fashion so that you can get re-enrolled in the class with enough time so that you do not miss any course or exam deadlines.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Jan 19 MLK Holiday	Jan 20 First Day of Classes <i>Min 1</i>	Jan 21 <i>1</i>	Jan 22 <i>2</i>	Jan 23 Homework: Mod 1: Time Scale
2	Jan 26 <i>2</i>	Jan 27 <i>3</i> <i>Min 2</i>	Jan 28 <i>3</i>	Jan 29 At Noon 'Check-In' Survey Timeout <i>4</i>	Jan 30 Homework: Mod 1: Radiometric Dating
3	Feb 2 <i>4</i>	Feb 3 <i>5</i> <i>Min 3</i>	Feb 4 <i>5</i>	Feb 5 Last Day to Add or Drop NGR is Feb 6 <i>6</i>	Feb 6 Homework: Mod 1: Fossil Life
4	Feb 9 Target date: Mod 1 finished <i>6</i>	Feb 10 Census is Feb 9, classes as usual <i>Min 4</i> <i>7</i>	Feb 11 Stud. target date: Vocab finished <i>8</i>	Feb 12 <i>8</i>	Feb 13 <i>President's</i> <i>Weekend</i>
5	Feb 16 <i>President's</i> <i>Weekend</i>	Feb 17 <i>9</i> <i>Ign</i>	Feb 18 <i>8</i>	Feb 19 At Noon Vocab Exam Times Out <i>10</i>	Feb 20 Homework: Mod 3: Mass Wasting
6	Feb 23 Student target date: Mod 2 finished <i>9</i>	Feb 24 <i>11</i> <i>Sed</i>	Feb 25 <i>10</i>	Feb 26 <i>12</i>	Feb 27 Homework: Mod 3: Deserts
7	Mar 2 <i>11</i>	Mar 3 <i>13</i> <i>Meta</i>	Mar 4 <i>12</i>	Mar 5 At Noon Exams Timeout for Modules 1 & 2 <i>14</i>	Mar 6 Homework: Mod 3: Meta Rocks
8	Mar 9 Student target date: Mod 3 finished <i>13</i>	Mar 10 <i>15</i> <i>Rvw</i>	Mar 11 <i>14</i>	Mar 12 <i>16</i>	Mar 13 Homework: Lab Midterm Studying
9	Mar 16 <i>15</i>	Mar 17 <i>17</i> Tue Lab Midterm	Mar 18 <i>16</i>	Mar 19 <i>FT 750</i> <i>18</i>	Mar 20 Homework: Mod 5: Glaciers
10	Mar 23 Student target date: Mod 4 finished <i>17</i>	Mar 24 <i>19</i> <i>Topo 1</i>	Mar 25 <i>18</i>	Mar 26 <i>FT 700</i> <i>20</i>	Mar 27 Homework: Mod : Natural Res.
11	Mar 30 <i>19</i>	Mar 31 <i>21</i> <i>Topo 2</i>	Apr 1 <i>20</i>	Apr 2 At Noon <i>FT 650</i> Exams Timeout for Modules 3 & 4 <i>22</i>	Apr 3 Homework: Mod 6: Stratigraphy & Geologic Histories
12	Apr 6 <i>Spring Break</i> Student target date: Mod 5 finished	Apr 7 <i>Spring Break</i>	Apr 8 <i>Spring Break</i>	Apr 9 <i>Spring Break</i>	Apr 10 Last Day to W Drop <i>Spring Break</i>
13	Apr 13 <i>21</i>	Apr 14 <i>23</i> <i>GeoHist</i>	Apr 15 <i>22</i>	Apr 16 <i>FT 600</i> <i>24</i>	Apr 17 Homework: Mod 7: Grndwtr, pt. 1
14	Apr 20 Student target date: Mod 6 finished <i>23</i>	Apr 21 <i>25</i> <i>Struct 1</i>	Apr 22 <i>24</i>	Apr 23 <i>FT 500</i> <i>26</i>	Apr 24 Homework: Mod 7 : Grndwtr, pt. 2
15	Apr 27 <i>25</i>	Apr 28 <i>27</i> <i>Struct 2</i>	Apr 29 <i>26</i>	Apr 30 At Noon <i>FT 400</i> Exams Timeout for Modules 5 & 6 <i>28</i>	May 1 Homework: Mod 7: ET Geology
16	May 4 Student target date: Mod 7 finished <i>27</i>	May 5 <i>29</i> <i>Rvw</i>	May 6 <i>28</i>	May 7 <i>FT 250</i> <i>30</i>	May 8 Homework: Mod 8: Tsunamis
17	May 11 <i>29</i>	May 12 <i>FT 0</i> <i>31</i> <i>Rvw</i>	May 13 <i>FT 0</i> <i>30</i>	May 14 <i>FT 0</i> <i>32</i>	May 15 Homework: Lab Practical Studying <i>FT 0</i>
18	May 18 Student target date: Mod 8 finished <i>31</i>	May 19 Tue Lab Practical <i>33</i>	May 20 <i>FT 0</i> <i>32</i>	May 21 Last Day <i>FT 0</i> of regular class meetings <i>34</i>	May 22 <i>First day of</i> <i>Finals Week</i>
19	May 25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Holiday</i>	May 26 <i>Finals Week</i> <i>The last of the</i> <i>Online Lab Extra Credit</i> <i>Quizzes timeout</i> <i>at noon and 5:30pm</i>	May 27 <i>Finals Week</i>	May 28 Online Exams for Modules 7&8 timeout at Noon for Geology 1 TTH & DistEd	May 29 <i>Finals Week</i> Graduation

Computer and Internet Use Required

This course requires that the student uses a computer and the internet to access course exams and other materials. Las Positas College uses the software program Blackboard for online courses. Students do not need to download Blackboard onto their computers. Students will access Blackboard through their computer's internet web browser.

All LPC students with courses that use Blackboard should read the LPC Online Learning Web Page at <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/>

Blackboard Login Instructions are at: <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/disted/blackboard.htm>

LPC Computer Center: <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/803compcenter/index.shtml>

If a student's home computer/ISP will not access or run the course web pages or Blackboard website, then the student must use the LPC Computer Center to access course materials and exams. Neither LPC nor the course instructor is responsible for troubleshooting the student's home computer set-up or internet connections. Your instructor is a geologist, not a computer technician.

ENROLLED STUDENTS:

Step 1: Read the Campus Online Learning webpages listed above

Step 2: Logon to Blackboard.

Step 3: Change your password

Step 4: Find this Geology 1 course

Step 5: Open the section called 'Exams (Course Materials)'

You should find the Blackboard 'Check-In' Survey Quiz, the Vocabulary Exam, eight Module Exams, and several Extra Credit Quizzes. Additional Extra Credit Exams/Quizzes may also be available (or become available throughout the term).

Step 6: If you have done steps 1-5 successfully, then you can open your textbook and green study guide and start working on the content for Module 1!

If you have any problems accessing the Blackboard webpages, I recommend visiting the LPC Computer Center and trying to access your Blackboard account from there. If it works from on-campus, then you will know that the problem lies with your home computer. You will then need to decide whether you want to try and fix your computer so that you can access Blackboard from home or whether you simply want to run the exams and such from the LPC Computer Center. Word of caution: troubleshooting your home computer can be extremely time consuming and frustrating – and *you* are the one who will have to fix the problems and spend the time – the school is not responsible for maintaining or fixing your home computer or software. Don't waste too much time on your home computer set-up when there are perfectly good computers on campus... and you will need to spend your time learning the Geology content of the course – not learning how to fix your computer.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE TO ADD: You will not be able to access any of the Blackboard course materials until you have completed your registration. After you have completed your registration into the course, your Blackboard account should be available within 4-8 hours on regular business days (you may have to allow more time on weekends or holidays). If you have an enrollment 'issue', you must resolve this with Admissions and Records – your instructor has no authority or control over the class roster (in other words, your instructor can not add students; only A&R can do that).

Online Exams

*that you can take an unlimited number of times
– are a privilege.*

However, if you do not wish to deal with the computer (or if your computer or Blackboard are booting you out of the exams), then you may exercise the following option:

Any student who wishes to, may make arrangements to take the exams during the instructor's office hours.

- The instructor will provide a printed copy of the exam for you to complete in the allotted 75 minutes.
- As with most traditional paper exams, you will have only one attempt at the exam (you can not have unlimited attempts).
- As stated in the course syllabus, you may use your textbook, but may not use any other notes or materials such as the Green Study Guide or the CD-ROM, etc.
- The exam must also be completed before the scheduled time-out date (as specified in the course syllabus), so students must make arrangements ahead of time (at least a week before a timeout deadline).

Of note, I made this same opportunity available in previous terms... and not one student has chosen to take the exams in the 'old traditional' fashion. This tells me that even though some students were frustrated with computer/technical issues, their frustration was not high enough to make them want to give up the opportunity to retake the exams and improve their scores.

The 'old traditional' method of testing is to take an exam once, and see what your score is... and what it is... is what it is, and you're stuck with that. The online testing software allows students the opportunity to retake their exams (when instructors make this option available), and to improve their scores (and hopefully, their knowledge-base). However, this wonderful tool and opportunity is a privilege that comes with a price... This price is that students must decide how to deal with 'computer/software/technical frustration' when it crops up. If there is any student who finds that they can not (or do not want to) deal with the technical frustrations, then they are more than welcome to take the exams in the old traditional fashion.

The campus computer techs are in touch with the Blackboard support personnel, and hopefully, the computer issues will be resolved in either this version of the software or a future update. However, as the instructor, **I recommend a practical and positive approach** – do not let yourself get too frustrated. If the software is booting you out and it's making you angry and you don't want to deal with it – then don't – instead, come to my office hours and we'll set it up for you to take the exams in the old-traditional fashion (I have 15 years of experience with the 'old standard way' of conducting exams) during my office hours.

BLACKBOARD CRASHES OR GOES OFFLINE????

(it happens....)

What to do if Blackboard goes offline or stops working or responding properly:

- for example, if you can't even get it to let you login - or if the login page won't come up at all...

1. **First: check the LPC Online Learning Webpage for announcements and status reports:**
(check to see if this problem has already been reported and whether or not it's being worked on).
Announcements (if there are any) should be posted at the top of the page.
<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/>
2. If the online Learning page does not have an announcement posted that deals with your latest issue or problem with Blackboard, then call and leave a phone message at **925.424.1142** (LPC Instructional Technology Student Support)
3. If you only get a recording at the above phone number, then leave a complete voice message and then also send an e-mail to **LPCdistEd@laspositascollege.edu**
4. Make sure that you give the computer techs all of the crucial info
 - o your phone number and e-mail so that they can get back to you
 - o exactly what happened when Blackboard stopped working or responding and what you were doing when it happened (what other programs you had open, what you clicked on, what you typed, etc.)
 - o what messages you got (error messages from your web browser, etc.)

-> Please be aware that the LPC Computer Techs are not paid to sit by the computer 24hrs/7days/week. The basic rule of thumb is that the computer techs are working the same hours that the LPC Computer Center is open. In general, they are not open late at night, during holidays, Saturday afternoons or Sundays or during breaks between semesters or any other time that the campus is closed. Therefore, if you have a problem with Blackboard at midnight, it is most likely that the computer techs will not know of the problem until the campus reopens in the morning (if it's a regular school day). For another example, if you have a problem with Blackboard at 4am on a Saturday, the computer techs will not know of the problem until 8am on Monday morning (assuming that that Monday is not a holiday). *Your instructor does not have any way to get in touch with the computer techs beyond the same phone numbers and email addresses posted here.*

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/computercenter>

-->> What's the moral of the story? **Always leave yourself *plenty* of time to get your exams done - always take your exams at well ahead of the timeout deadline.** Deadlines will not be extended if Blackboard goes offline the night before a timeout deadline - you should have finished the exam days before that.

You can also leave a voice mail message for your instructor (refer to the section of the syllabus with the instructor's office hours), but please be aware that your instructor will not get this voice mail message until the next school day and not until there is time to listen to messages after classes are over. Your instructor can not fix Blackboard access problems (unfortunately).

GRADING

Your term grade is calculated on a 1000-point scale.

For example, you need to accumulate 900 points or more to earn an A

TERM
Grading Scale
$900 \leq A$
$800 \leq B < 900$
$700 \leq C < 800$
$600 \leq D < 700$
$F < 600$

- Grades are not rounded up; for example, if you have 899.95 points, you have earned a B.
- **To view your grades**, click on 'Your Geo 1 Grades' in the left-side menu for this class in Blackboard.

Late work: Anything submitted late will be marked "late" and will receive no credit.

Drop procedures: It is the student's responsibility to drop the course before any appropriate deadlines (e.g., NGR – no grade of record, W – withdrawal, or the end of the course). If a student's name appears on the final term roster, the student will receive the letter grade which reflects the student's course work out of the total course points possible for the term. **You are responsible** at all times for your own progress. **Do not assume that I will drop you from the class** if you are failing the course. It is important that **you keep track** of your progress. You must make sure that you are aware of all drop and withdrawal dates.

Letters of Recommendation: *If a student wishes to request that I write a letter of recommendation for a scholarship, entrance to a college, or for a job, you must come to me at least a week before any deadlines. Please bring all of your materials and information to my office hours. I will write the letter while you are present – and only if you are present – and you will have the opportunity to proofread the letter.*

Attendance

Coming to class is the easiest way to learn the material!

- In-class quizzes may count for term points.
- This is at the instructor's discretion throughout the term.
- Any points assigned for in-class quizzes will count as extra credit.

- **After** each class, the instructor will choose which (if any) assignments or in-class quizzes count for points.

- Which assignments or in-class quizzes count for points will not be announced ahead of time.

- Typically, an activity, assignment or quiz will be assigned 1-5 points. However, some activities (assignments, quizzes, etc) may be assigned more than 5 points, while others may not be assigned any points.

- Students who miss class, will miss any extra credit points that were available that day.

- Students who come late, or leave early, will miss any of the extra credit points for that day. A student will not receive the extra credit points if they
 - Complete the intro quiz and then leave class early
 - Turn in an in-class quiz (or assignment) when they came to class late

- Extra Credit points may also be available through on-line quizzes where students who were in class will receive the quiz password and/or content or answer to an online quiz that will timeout within a few hours of the end of that class meeting.

- In-class and Online Pop Quizzes are at the instructor's discretion. There may be many of them throughout the term, there may only be a few, or there may not be any.

What if the instructor is not there when class is supposed to start?

(How long should you wait?)

- Things to check if the instructor is not present when class is supposed to start:
 - Check the doors to the classroom
Whenever possible, the campus tries to post notes regarding cancelled classes
 - Check the LPC website listing of cancelled classes
-You'll need to find a computer connected to the internet
- go to the LPC homepage and then click on the link to 'Classes Not Meeting Today' \
 - Make sure that the campus has not been evacuated due to a fire alarm (look for large groups of people standing around in the parking lots and ask them what is going on)

If there is no note posted on the door, no fire alarm evacuation, and this geology class is not listed on the website with the other classes 'not meeting today', then your instructor has probably been held up in traffic (or some such) and should arrive shortly. *Please wait 15 minutes before leaving.*

Exams

- **All required exams/quizzes are available for weeks (or months) before the specified timeout day** (see the first page of the syllabus for specific dates).
- You may take these required exams an unlimited number of times until the timeout deadline.
- **The last attempt counts** (not the highest score)
 - If you take the exam more than once, the last attempt is the one that counts.
 - So – don't retake the exam unless you are prepared to accept a lower score than you already have. No amount of pleading, whining or begging will change this.
 - If you re-open an exam that you have already taken, and then change your mind about retaking the exam – it's too late. Once you've re-opened the exam, you have to retake it; otherwise, your last score is going to be a zero, and that will stand as your exam score.
 - If you take the exam and your last attempt shows as a padlock or exclamation symbol, this means that something went wrong (you went over time, or there was a computer glitch, etc.) **and that you have to retake the exam.**
- Each time you take retake an exam the questions will come up in random order and will be pulled at random from a much larger pool of questions.... Which means that each time you retake an exam you will see a lot of questions that you have seen before as well as some that you haven't.
- **Each exam** will be *comprehensive* but will emphasize the material covered since the previous exam.
- **The time limit for each exam is stated at the beginning of the exam - if you go over that time limit, your score is a zero (0).**
 - If you have studied sufficiently, then you should be able to complete the exam within the time limit.
 - If you are having trouble finishing within the time limit*, then you probably need to study more. If you study more and are still having trouble finishing within the time limit, then come to the instructor's office hours and we will schedule a time for you to take the exam in my presence (during my office hours on another day). You must still complete the exam before the timeout deadline posted at the beginning of the syllabus. I will give you unlimited time when you take the exam in my presence; however, you will only be able to use your textbook and you will not be able to use the Green Study Guide or any other notes, materials, CD-ROMs, etc.
- **Almost *all* of the exam questions are included in the Green Study Guide!** Almost all of the questions that are not in the Green Study Guide are questions relating to pictures and diagrams (most of which are in your textbook).
- **Exam answer keys are not posted or available for downloading or distribution.** This is because the major, required exams are open-book *and may be taken an unlimited number of times*. If the answers were posted in any fashion, the exams would be useless.
- **Students who come to the instructor's regularly posted office hours may ask the instructor to look up which questions the student missed.** *The instructor will look up the first three questions missed only, and the instructor will not give the student the answers to the missed questions.* Please remember that the instructor will only look up the last attempt that the student made. The instructor will not look up missed questions on Extra Credit quizzes.

Extra Credit

- **Each Module exam includes a little extra credit** to counterbalance spaz-clicking ('oops, clicked on the wrong one'), possible errors in a few questions and/or simply a few questions that the student misinterprets or does not agree with the wording. Each required 100-question module exam will actually have 103 questions. Extra credit quizzes do not have 'freebie' questions.
- **There are SIX online 50-point Extra Credit/Makeup Quizzes available** (in Blackboard).
 - Each of these Extra Credit quizzes has 100 questions and a 1 hour time limit
 - Each of these Extra Credit quizzes will select 100 questions from a pool of more than 1800 questions that can cover the entire course content (the entire textbook).
 - Each of these 50-point Extra Credit quizzes is comprehensive and can cover the material from the entire term and the entire textbook
 - There are no 'freebie' questions on these 50-point Extra Credit quizzes (you can already miss 10 questions and still get the credit)
 - Once you score higher than 90% on one of these quizzes, another 1-question, 50-point quiz will become available. **Answer that 1 question correctly and you will earn the 50 points of extra credit.** You will have unlimited attempts at the 1-question, 50-point quiz, until the specified timeout date and time.
 - *Each of the six 100-question quizzes opens a different 1-question, 50-point quiz; therefore there are a total of 300 extra credit points available here.*
- **Additional Extra Credit**
 - Additional online (and in-class) extra credit quizzes and exams may become available at the instructor's discretion. Logon and check out the list of exams often (once a day or once every other day).
 - Extra Credit will not harm your score – it can only help. For example, you need at least 900 term points to earn an A in this course – and you can earn those 900 points from the required exams (without completing any of the extra credit exams or pop quizzes).

Pop Quizzes

With traditional in-class pop quizzes, the students who are present in-class that day take an unannounced pop quiz that usually lasts 5-15 minutes. Students who miss class that day miss the pop quiz and miss the opportunity to earn those points. Pop quizzes can not be 'made up'. Students who miss class, in-class extra credit points and/or pop quizzes can use the 50-point Online Extra Credit Quizzes to make-up missed points.

In this course, the following types of pop quizzes are possible:

- traditional, in-class pop quizzes
- on-line pop quizzes that are only available for a short time. If you login to Blackboard during that time, then you can attempt the quizzes. If you don't login to Blackboard during the time that the quiz is active, then you will miss the opportunity to earn those points.
- on-line pop quizzes that are password protected. Students who were in class that day will have the password and will be able to take the quiz. Students who were not in class that day will not have the password and will not be able to take the quiz. With these password-protected pop quizzes, the points will be extra credit.


Login often... and check the list of exams and quizzes!!!

Understanding Your Blackboard Gradebook

- To view your exams**, click on 'Your Grades' in the left side menu within Blackboard.
- Your exam scores** are in the Column titled 'Calculated Grade'
- Your last attempt counts** (not the highest score), even if your last attempt was aborted for some reason (e.g., you changed your mind or had a computer glitch).
- Your accumulating term total** is shown at the bottom of the 'Calculated Grade' column.

Check your course syllabus to see how many points you need to accumulate to earn an A, B, C, etc. in the course.

- To calculate your grade yourself**
 - Write down each score that shows in the Calculated Grade column
 - For each score that shows as a padlock or exclamation symbol
 - Click on the padlock or exclamation symbol
 - This will bring up a record of your exam attempts
 - Your score on your last attempt is the one that counts
 - Write down the score of your last attempt ***If your last attempt shows as a padlock or exclamation symbol, you need to retake the exam before the timeout deadline.***
 - Total up all of your exam scores and compare to the total at the bottom of the Calculated Grade Column. Your total should match Blackboard's. If it doesn't, double-check your scores and that you wrote them down correctly. Have someone that you trust double-check your numbers if it won't match for you (this is very similar to balancing your checkbook). If you still can't figure it out, come to the instructor's office hours for assistance (email and phone-tag don't work well for this).
-

-  **A padlock symbol can mean that**
 - an exam is in progress (you're actually taking it right now),
 - an exam was exited before it was completed (e.g., you didn't hit submit at the end of the exam to allow Blackboard to do the proper housekeeping on your exam).
 - a computer glitch created a problem at the same time that Blackboard was attempting to record your exam results – and your results were lost.

*A padlock symbol does *not* mean that you are locked out of retaking an exam.*

→ ***The lowest stress way to resolve the problem is to retake the exam before the timeout deadline.*** You can call the instructor and/or the computer support techs, but if your exam and score are lost and there is no record of your answers, then you have to retake the exam – before the timeout deadline. *Computer glitches happen, and you must plan for them and allow yourself time to retake the exams before the timeout deadline.* If you like stress and frustration, then you can try and see if someone can resurrect your exam. Unfortunately, it is rare for lost electronic exams to be found, however, and the time spent explaining your problem and waiting for responses is much more constructively spent simply retaking the exam. Otherwise, by the time someone gets back to you, you may have lost the time that you needed to retake the exam.
-

- ! An exclamation symbol can mean that**
 - You went over the exam timelimit (e.g., 75 minutes). **If you went over the exam timelimit, your score for that over-time-attempt will be cleared to a zero after the exam deadline passes** (e.g., Feb 19 for the Vocab Exam) and your term total will lose those points. To prevent yourself from losing your exam points, simply retake the exam before the exam deadline, and complete the retake within the specified time limit (e.g., 75 minutes). *It's the score of your last attempt that counts.*
 - OR: One of your exam attempts has a padlock or exclamation symbol instead of a score. Click on the exclamation symbol and inspect your exam attempts. If your last attempt shows a numerical score, then any previous attempts (padlock or exclamation symbols) shouldn't count in your term total. The score of your last attempt should be included in your term total at the bottom of the Calculated Grade column.
-

- **Padlock and exclamation symbols on *previous* exam attempts don't count towards your term total.**

It's your last attempt on each exam that matters. Your last attempt needs to show a numerical score so that it can be included in your term total. If your last attempt does not show a numerical score – then retake the exam before the timeout deadline. **If your *last attempt* is a padlock or exclamation symbol, then your score for that exam is a 0 – just retake the exam before the timeout to prevent a 0 score.**

- **Of note, please keep in mind that your instructor's gradebook displays a summary list of everyone's last attempts. Padlocks and exclamation points on last attempts are cleared to zeroes after each exam timeout deadline passes.**

Check Your Blackboard Gradebook After You Complete Each Exam



As soon as you complete each of the exams, your scores should be visible in your Blackboard gradebook (the exceptions to this are the Extra Credit Quizzes where you have to score higher than 90% - for these exams, please refer to the 'Extra Credit' section of the syllabus for more details and information). Make sure that you check your gradebook as soon as you are finished with each exam - and make sure that your scores show up. **If they do not, you will have to either 1) retake the exam before the timeout deadline** or 2) visit the instructor's office hours before the timeout deadline to see if your exam results are somewhere that the instructor can access them. *If they are not, then you will have to retake the exam before the timeout deadline.* Remember: deadlines are not extended - therefore, you will have to use the available extra credit quizzes to make up for any missed deadlines (whether it was due to your own error or a computer/technological problem or other issue).

In the past, there have been a few students who have reported that they successfully completed their exams, hit submit, Blackboard showed them their score for their exam, and everything appeared to be fine. However, when the students looked in their Blackboard gradebook for their score, all they saw was a padlock symbol which is the symbol for 'exam in progress'. When the students came to my office hours, I looked up their exams and found that while all of their questions had been saved – none of their answers were saved. Consequently, there was no record, or proof, of the students' work or scores. Each of these students had to retake their exams before the timeout deadline. This problem has been reported through the LPC computer techs to the Blackboard techs. To date, however, I have not received any further information regarding this issue.

If something similar should happen to you, then you should either follow the steps specified in the paragraphs above, and/or you should work on some of the extra credit quizzes and exams to make up for any points that are lost due to technological snafus or weirdness.

What are the penalties for.... coming in late, leaving early, getting up during class, having a cell phone go off in class, etc.? [Refer to the list of College Student Responsibilities for more complete lists.]

- ⇒ Each first offense is up to 25 term points deducted from the student's course grade.
- ⇒ Second offenses are up to 50 points each.
- ⇒ Third offenses will result in a course grade of F.
- ⇒ **THE DOORS MAY BE LOCKED** as soon as scheduled class time begins. Warning: instructions and assignments are given at the beginning of the class time....The professor will not repeat instructions for late students.
- ⇒ The classroom clock will be the "official time keeper" – check out what it says and compare it to your watch. The doors will be locked according to the classroom clock.

End of Term Dates

- To figure out your Term Letter Grade:
 - View your Term Total of points in your Blackboard gradebook
 - and then compare that to the Term Grading Scale (on a previous page in this syllabus)
- You have access to view your grades through noon on May 29 (the last day of Finals Week). After noon on May 29, the Blackboard Geology course materials will become unavailable for viewing.
- **Upgrade Option** You may upgrade (substitute) 1 or 2 of your major exam scores with ½ of your Module 8 (Part 2) exam score. The major exams scores that can be replaced in this manner are the Vocabulary Quiz score, and the Module 1-7 exam scores.

→ To exercise this option, login to Blackboard and open the Exams (Course Materials) page and then open the 'Upgrade a Low Exam Score' folder. Fill out the request and click on the Submit button. **This request must be submitted before 1pm, Thur, May 28.**
- The total points displayed in your Blackboard Gradebook is your term total. There are no extensions – all of the required major exams were available for unlimited attempts for weeks (or months).

How long do I keep exams and your class paperwork? – I keep your old exams and other classwork until the end of the following term. For example, the old exams from Spring 2006 were destroyed at the end of Fall 2006.

Exam Deadlines and Policies

❖ If the online materials are not accessible for you....

- The deadlines will not be extended – all required major exam dates (100 and 200 point exams) were given to you weeks ahead of time or on the first day of the term (see the front page of the syllabus). *DO NOT WAIT until only a few days before the deadline to attempt to access the online materials and/or quizzes.*
- Servers go down. Computers crash. The day or two before a deadline, the system is overloaded with students all trying to access the same online materials. The deadlines will not be extended.
- If the LPC server goes down, the deadlines will not be extended.
- If the Blackboard server goes down, the deadlines will not be extended.
- DO NOT WAIT. DO NOT LEAVE YOURSELF WITHOUT ANY OPTIONS.

❖ If you have left yourself several weekdays (M-F), or a week, to deal with computer/internet problems:

- If you can not access the online materials from home, use the Computer Center in Building 800.
- If you are having problems with Blackboard, visit the Computer Center and/or follow the instructions on the LPC Online Learning webpages and/or visit your professor's office hours (but please remember that your instructor is a geologist and not a computer technician!)

If you do not know how to access or use the online materials, visit the Computer Center and/or your professor's office hours.

- **Upgrade Option** You may upgrade (substitute) 1 or 2 of your major exam scores with ½ of your Module 8 (Part 2) exam score. The major exams scores that can be replaced in this manner are the Vocabulary Quiz score, and the Module 1-7 exam scores.

→ To exercise this option, login to Blackboard and open the Exams (Course Materials) page and then open the 'Upgrade a Low Exam Score' folder. Fill out the request and click on the Submit button.

This request must be submitted before 1pm, Thur, May 28.

If you miss the Module 8 (Part 2) Exam deadline, the last chance to take this exam and get some points is the last day of Finals Week, Friday, May 29 between 10am-2pm.

- You must notify the instructor the day before that you will be coming during this time to take the exam
- You will take the exam on the LPC Campus – come to the instructor's office (Rm 1829 or 1824). *This makeup option is a privilege, not a right, and is at the instructor's discretion and purview.*
- You will have one attempt at the exam
- You may use your textbook, but no other notes or books.
- You will have the standard 75 minutes to complete the exam (unless you arrive after 12:45pm).
- You must be finished by 2pm
- The exam may be on the computer, or it may be on paper.
- The only exam that may be taken during this time is the Module 8 Part 2 Exam.
- Your score on this exam will be your Module 8 Part 2 Exam score (this is not extra credit).

Special Needs or Concerns

Students with special needs and concerns (disabilities or such) should

- speak with the instructor at the beginning of the term
- all special needs that require special accommodations must be documented
- speak with the LPC DSPS office (Disabled Student Services) and explore what options and facilities and materials are available to assist you with your college education

Geologic Photo Interpretation is a key concept and skill in the introductory Geology course (please refer to the official LPC Course Outline for this course for details). Students with vision impairments or other vision problems will need to speak with the instructor at the beginning of the term in order to make special arrangements with respect to exam questions which require students to evaluate and identify the geology displayed in photos.

→ **Written Documentation Policy for Extenuating Circumstances** As a matter of academic integrity and fairness to all students, extenuating circumstances must be supported with formal, written documentation from an outside official source (e.g., a doctor). Documentation of extenuating circumstances must be submitted by the student or a family member (not another student) within one to two weeks of the extenuating circumstance. The Instructor will notify and consult with the Dean and Vice President regarding the student's situation. **In order for an extenuating circumstance to be valid, all of the student's courses must be suffering to the same degree and from the same situation.**

Don't communicate remotely for urgent or important issues = never leave it to just an E-mail or just a Phone Message

- **If you have urgent issues or circumstances, then bring them to the instructor's regularly scheduled office hours and speak to the instructor in person.**
- If you have special or unique issues or circumstances, do not simply leave an e-mail or a phone message and then sit around waiting for the instructor to get back to you. Phone messages are jotted down and can get lost. E-mail responses can be forgotten amongst the myriad of other e-mails and issues. The instructor attempts to return phone calls and emails as time permits, however, the reality of the world that we live in, is that remote messages can be lost or forgotten in the fast-paced and demanding world that often overtakes our best intentions.
- Don't ask a friend, family member or counselor to deal with course issues for you. Whenever you possibly can do it yourself, you should. Get the information first-hand – that way, you'll have the best chance of understanding your options (second or third-hand through friends or family rarely works effectively).
- It is your responsibility that you pass the course – it is not the instructor's responsibility that you pass the course – so make sure that you follow up on things – don't just leave it at an e-mail or phone message that someone else is supposed to return.
- If you do leave an email or phone message for the instructor, do not put your other Geology coursework on hold while waiting for the instructor to get back to you. Time marches on while you are waiting and the end of the term is a hard and fast deadline. Keep studying and keep up on the content of the course. Don't go into a 'holding pattern' and get behind.

Reference/Contact List

⇒ **Las Positas Website:** <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/>

⇒ **Las Positas Online Learning Webpage:** <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/>
email: LPCdistEd@laspositascollege.edu or (925) 424-1142.

Note: Do not send 'Geology questions' to the computer techs! Questions about Geologic content should be answered by the material in your textbook, the Earth Revealed videos or by doing a websearch on the topic in question. If none of these resources work, then you may come to your instructor's office hours for assistance.

⇒ **Blackboard Login Instructions:** <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/disted/enrolled.htm>

⇒ **Campus Computer Center:** <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/803compcenter/index.shtml>

⇒ **RL Hanna's Geology Website:** <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/hanna/frameset.htm>

- Almost all logistical questions can be answered in the course syllabus or on my website
- Read the syllabus very carefully
- Questions about Geologic content should be answered by the material in your textbook, the Earth Revealed videos or by doing a websearch on the topic in question. If none of these resources work, then you may come to your instructor's office hours for assistance.
- When I am on campus I have classes, labs, meetings, etc., and am rarely in my office.
→ My office hours are held in Rm 1824 (not my office).
- **For questions dealing with understanding geologic concepts, you may not try and use the instructor as a short-cut so that you don't have to look the material up. You must read the textbook, use the CD-ROM, watch the videos if you need to and also search for answers on the internet. If you try all of these and still can not find the answers to your geology questions,**
 - ✓ My e-mail is already overloaded and bombarded – if you send an email, make sure that you put “I am a current Geology Student” and the Term and Year (e.g., Spring 2009) in the subject header. Unfortunately, the SPAM/Junk Mail/Virus/Trojan protectors tend to filter out the emails from unrecognized (other than internal campus) senders. If you send an email and do not get a response, make sure that you come to my posted office hours if you still need to speak with me.
 - ✓ **If you leave a phone message or send an e-mail, I will try to get back to you within a week.** If you do not hear back from me, please accept my apologies and please stop by my scheduled office hours. (925) 424-1319
- “Old-fashioned” mail – Building 100, Instructors' mailboxes. If you leave something for me through my campus mail, please make sure that you use an unsealed envelope (or no envelope). I will not open sealed envelopes or packages through the campus mail.
- If for some reason, you leave a message for me and you do not hear back from me, it is your responsibility to follow up and try and get in touch with me again. Your best bet is to come to my regularly scheduled office hours. Hopefully, the course syllabus will answer most of your critical questions. You are the only one responsible for whether or not you pass this course – do not wait until deadlines pass or time becomes critical – take care of things ahead of time.

OFFICE HOURS

Rm 1824 – only knock on the door during my office hours.

- ⇒ Please remember that it is extremely important that you do not knock on the doors to Rm 1824 unless it is my posted office hours
- ⇒ If it is not my office hours and you see other folks in Rm 1824 (myself or other students), please do not knock on the door to ask questions – there are technicians and student assistants and other instructors who must work undisturbed in this area, please let them get their work done
- ⇒ Even if you see me in Rm 1824 – if it's not my office hours, please do not knock on the door – I have labs and demonstration materials to set up and I need the time to do so.

When you come to office hours with course exam study questions, you must bring your green Study Guide with all review questions up-to-date and you must have proof that you have attempted to answer your questions through several sources including the course textbook, CD-ROM, Earth Revealed videos and the internet. Your textbook has an index *and* a glossary. Geologic Dictionaries are available on-line and in Rm 1824 during my office hours. The instructor will not be able to assist you until after you have explored these materials and sources for information.

Please respect my time - please do not try and "catch me" at times other than my office hours. I generally teach 6-7 classes and have around 250 students per semester. In addition to preparing and teaching classes, I also have weekly obligations to the college. I generally work 8-10 hour days. Please respect my time. If I'm in my office and it's not during office hours, then I am working on something. I don't "hang out" here.

Be polite during office hours. When attending the instructor's office hours, all students must be polite and wait their turn. You will most probably not be dealt with first. Everyone is busy and everyone has other classes, jobs, appointments and commitments. Everyone is busy. Do NOT act like a spoiled brat that should not have to wait its turn. Leave the attitude outside. Be polite and be mature. When you come to office hours, sign in and then you will have to wait - there may be many other students with difficult issues that also need to see the instructor. You may have to wait more than a half-hour or even more than an hour. All students will be treated equally and fairly.

Questions you may never ask me: "Can I make up my exam?" and "What are your office hours?" (my office hours are in your course syllabus, posted on my door and posted on my website.....).

Read your course syllabus, stay up with the class, and keep track of and take responsibility for your own progress. It is college. **The responsibilities are huge, the rewards are enormous.**

Instructor: R.L. Hanna

Office Hours: Wednesday 12-2pm and Thursday 12:30-2:10pm.

The above on-site office hours are held in Rm 1824 (Science Center Work Area)

phone: 424-1319: *please remember that I am not next to my phone during office hours (I am in the Work Area)*

Basic Course Websites

⇒ **Become familiar with these websites and bookmark them on your computer.**

1. The Las Positas Website

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/>

- where you can find the section called ‘Class Web’ – where you can register for classes online, check your semester schedule, view your transcript. etc.
- To login to Class Web, use your LPC student ID number (W number – it should be on your registration materials) and your birthday (month, day and the last 2 digits of the year) is your password. You should login and then change your password to something that you will remember, but that others will not figure out.

2. The LPC Online Learning (Distance Education) Page/ Website

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/>

- has general Online Learning information as well as login and contact information

3. The Blackboard Login Page/ Website

<http://clpccd.blackboard.com/>

- *where all of your Geology 1 Exams are* (under Course Materials)
- *where your Geology 1 grades are displayed (Your Geo 1 Grades)*
- to login to Blackboard, follow the directions on the Distance Education webpage for Enrolled Students (students who haven’t added yet, will not be able to access Blackboard). Your userid and password for Blackboard are not the same that you use for Class Web. After you have logged into Blackboard, you should change your password to something that you will remember, but that others will not figure out.

4. Prof. Hanna’s Geology Directory Page/Website

<http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/hanna/frameset.htm>

- where you can find General Geology information and links
- where you can find the instructor’s office hours and weekly schedule
- where you can find a color-coded semester calendar (that includes important dates for all of Prof. Hanna’s classes).
- where you can find information about the other courses that the instructor teaches

⇒ **Next, you should browse through each of these websites and become familiar with what they offer and how they are set-up.**

Geology Website Info

A. The AOL browser may give you problems. You may use AOL as your internet connection, but you may have to use Internet Explorer to access Blackboard.

B. When you find broken links on my website:

- ⇒ notice I said “when” and not “if” -- my website has thousands of links and website addresses are always changing - broken links are just part of the fabric of the internet
- ⇒ I can only fix the broken links that are internal to my website
- ⇒ I can only fix the broken links that open other pages on my website
- ⇒ I can not (and do not have time) to fix the broken links that are to webpages off my website

→ When you find a broken link:

1. go back to the link and roll your mouse over the link (without clicking)
2. watch the text bar at the bottom of the webpage window while you hold the mouse over the link text
3. you should see the webaddress of the webpage that the link is trying to open
4. IF the webaddress does not start with <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/hanna/> THEN this is not a link to one of my webpages and I will not fix this link
If this link was to a topic that you are interested in pursuing on the internet, open Yahoo (or your favorite search engine) and do a web search on that topic
The links on my website are to help you; however, you are fully capable of finding your own – and you should be doing some of this..... If my link is broken – go find some of your own.....
5. IF that webaddress starts with <http://lpc1.clpccd.cc.ca.us/lpc/hanna/> THEN you have found a broken link that I can fix
Please write information down that tells me what webpage this link is on and what link is broken
Give me this information during my office hours (I may have to bring the website up and have you show me where the broken link is)
6. If you can't come to my office hours or if you don't want to do the above, then you'll just have to live with the broken link (without whining or complaining). ☺

Geology 1 is a course where college students CAN learn the material

- The topics are well presented in most basic college geology textbooks.
- The topics do not require any advanced mathematics.
- The LPC library owns a very good collection of instructional video tapes which students can access for basic course content; in particular, LPC owns two complete copies of the Earth Revealed video series which is configured in 30 minute sessions for each of the main topics covered in the intro geology course.
- The course textbook comes with an excellent CD-ROM that follows the textbook and contains good-quality graphics and animations.
- There are outside website resources for intro geology online; examples include, the USGS website, Google Earth, NASA's Visible Earth website – color satellite images, Earth and Moon Viewer, The National Earthquake Information Center, Cascade Volcano Observatory, Geology by Lightplane by Louis J. Maher, Jr., Associated Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the instructor's personal geologic online photos albums (thousands of photos), etc.

By the time I finished my four-year Bachelor's degree, I realized that I did not need any instructor to learn the basic concepts of almost any course (that I had completed the prerequisites for). The average college student actually does not need an instructor to learn the basic concepts. After more than 15 years of college teaching, I know that 90% of my freshmen-level students are fully capable of learning the basic material on their own – they just do not know that they are capable of it because they have rarely been forced to try hard enough. The major hurdle for most students is that they want “instant understanding” – they want someone to explain it to them in such a way that they “instantly get-it”. Consequently, because this is a rare occurrence, many students are continually frustrated or less-than-satisfied. These students have forgotten (or never realized) that it is the student's responsibility to learn the material (it is not the professor's responsibility to provide “instant understanding”).

Because “instant understanding” is rare (although continuously expected), many students find that they do not have enough time in their overbooked life-schedules to spend the necessary time to achieve the proper comprehension of course concepts. Something has to go... some expectations have to change; such as, you may not get an A in the class if you can not rearrange your schedule to accommodate the learning time that you need; or you may have to drop a class or two; or you may have to cut-back on work hours and cut items from your personal budget.

When I see a student who finds geology easy, I expect that student to continuously show me that they have spent time exploring geology beyond the basic concepts and to be watching the geology videos in the LPC library collection – especially the Earth Revealed Series.

When I see a student who is struggling with the basic concepts, I expect that student to be meeting with a tutor weekly, to be working on their practice exam questions daily, to be watching all of the Earth Revealed videos, to be signed up for the Geo 9 class (if it's available this term) and/or working in a study group, etc.

If you did not understand some of the concepts discussed in the textbook, then stop whining and figure out how you are going to learn the material. Do what you need to do. Make positive efforts that increase your learning. Don't waste your time with the negatives, don't waste your time griping. Figure out how you are going to make the time in your schedule to learn the material. You do not need the professor!

If there was ever a course that you should be willing to teach yourself, Geology 1 should be it!

Motivation... one of the key requirements for getting through college! And you can't get through a college class without having some motivation for wanting to learn the material and content of the course. If you're only taking the course because it fulfills a GE requirement...you're going to run into trouble making yourself study.... and will probably find yourself missing exam deadlines and having to drop.

Just look at what this class covers: Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Landslides, Cave Geology, Beach Geology (which is really cool!), Hot Springs and Geysers, the Richter Scale, Paleontology (fossils, dinosaurs and such), the Geology of Hawaii, the Geology of Yellowstone, the Geology of the Sierra Nevada and Yosemite, the Geology of Mt. St. Helens, etc. Who doesn't want to know how these things work? Who doesn't want to understand floods and where it's dangerous to build or own a home? The things that you learn in this class will be useful for the rest of your life!

Learning about these topics should be fun and interesting – enough so that you are willing to make yourself sit alone by yourself in a room and read the chapter and work through the CD-ROM and/or watch the videos and search the internet for information.

PLAN AHEAD

- You must plan ahead and clear enough time in your schedule for you to be able to learn the course material.
- If you find yourself with a problem (your computer doesn't work, your quizzes don't seem to be working properly, you can't logon to Blackboard, etc.), you must have enough time to deal with getting the problem resolved.
- The school does not provide computer/geology support 24 hours/7 days a week.
 - If you have a computer problem at 3am in the morning, you will have to wait until regular business hours before you will be able to speak with a computer/Distance Ed support person.
 - If you have a geology question or some such for the instructor, you must allow several days to a week for the instructor to get back to you. Your instructor teaches many other classes and attends various campus meetings, as well as overseeing the LPC Geology Program.
- So what should you do while waiting for a response?
 - Continue studying – do not get behind and do not let yourself fall into a 'holding pattern' with no geological progress. Deadlines will not be extended because you were waiting for an answer. Passing the course is your responsibility and no one else's.
 - Go to the Computer Center during its posted hours.
 - Go to your instructor's posted office hours.

How much time is this class going to take?

College courses are generally based on this formula:

For every 1 hour in-class, students should be studying 2 hours on their own.

Example: A standard 3-unit lecture course has 3 hours/week of class meeting time and each student should be studying 6 hours/week outside of class – for a total of 9 hours/week.

3 units → 3 hours/week in class + 6 hours/week studying outside of class = 9 hours/week total

Study hours = twice the number of units. If you are taking math classes, or physics or chemistry, or English 1A, then shade in some extra study time beyond the basic 2 hours for each unit. If you are a non-science major, then you will probably need more than 2 hours/unit of studying when you take science classes.

Full-time students

For a full-time student with 15 units, $15 \times 2 = 30$ hours of study time each week.

15 hours in-class/week + 30 hours of study time each week = 45 hours of college work/week. That's why 15 units is considered a full-time student – 15 units is equivalent to a full-time job.

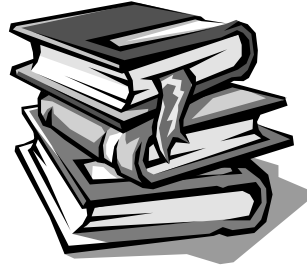
FOR THIS CLASS: There are 3 hours of class meetings per week and you also need to plan at least 6 hours/week of studying the material in more depth (using the Green Course Study Guide, working the exam practice questions, rereading sections in the textbook, studying the photos and diagrams in the textbook, exploring the CD-ROMs and videos., etc.)

On average, you will need to plan at least 9 hours/week for this course. Remember 9 hours/week is an average – and no student is average. Some students will be able to pass this course and will be able to get by with less than 9 hours/week... while other students will need to spend more than 9 hours/week.

Students who generally need more than 9 hours/week:

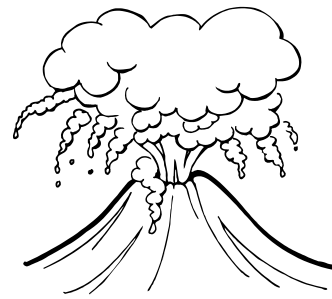
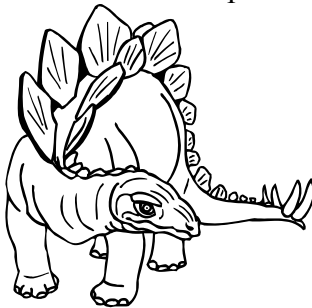
- Students with learning disabilities or other special needs – and I have to say that these students rarely fail to impress me because they rarely complain about the extra time needed for them to succeed. Most of the time, these students are very aware that they will have to put in many extra hours studying... so they just do it! My heartfelt congratulations and kudos to those students.
- Non-science majors who really dislike all science courses (their attitude often slows them down considerably and makes studying harder and... slower...)
- Students who want to do more than just pass – students who want to learn the material exceptionally well and/or want to get a top-flight A-grade

Now the formula and comments above are generalizations and apply to average students. Each class is different and each student is different. You will need to assess your own abilities and needs and make adjustments to your own personal weekly schedule to accommodate the hours that you need to study to succeed in your college courses.



To Optimize Your Learning Opportunities actively participate in the learning process:

- ✓ **practice** what you learn in class
- ✓ use the **textbook** as a resource to help you
- ✓ quiz yourself from the photos in the text
- ✓ **use the CD-ROM** that comes with the textbook
- ✓ **quiz yourself and practice** - every other day
- ✓ work the **review and sample exam questions** *well in advance* of the exams
- ✓ work the **on-line practice quizzes** at the instructor's geology web-site
- ✓ **STUDY GROUPS**: work and study with other students in the class
 - quiz each other
- ✓ explore the **geology links** available on the instructor's geology web-site
- ✓ attend EVERY scheduled class meeting; ***commit to education as your priority***
- ✓ take advantage of the instructor's office hours
- ✓ use the LPC Tutorial Center
- ✓ during office hours; inform your instructors of
 - ⇒ learning disabilities
 - ⇒ physical disabilities
 - ⇒ use of prescribed medications that affect your in-class capabilities
 - ⇒ other such special accommodations that may be required



COURSE TOOLS

To assist you with learning the material, you have the following tools:

☞ **Course textbook**

- The course textbook is very well done and is your most important course resource. Some students have added ‘tabs’ to important pages so that they can quickly turn to what they need. Examples include the Geologic Time Scale, the world plate tectonic maps, chapter title pages, etc.
- Pay special attention to all photos and diagrams in the text. Exams will include geologic photo interpretation where the student will have to evaluate the geology displayed in a photo. The textbook has excellent geologic photographs (and some of them are on the exams!)
- Almost all exam questions can be answered from the information that is in the textbook.

☞ **Textbook CD-ROM** – *very* well done

For many students, the CD-ROM may be the best place to start each new topic. The CD-ROM provides clear, simple explanations of the basic concepts along with excellent graphics, illustrations, photographs and interactive self-quizzes.

☞ **The Earth Revealed video series** on reserve in the LPC LRC

- *These videos are *strongly* recommended for students who struggle with reading the textbook (or simply struggle with maintaining the motivation to read the textbook). I recommend the textbook CD-ROM first and then follow this with the videos.*
- The Earth Revealed Video (ERV) Series is a 26-part series of 30-minute segments and each segment deals with one basic topic/concept of this course. Made to be a telecourse, the videos are well done and generally stick to the topic without spending too much time on esoteric details.
- A list of ERV is provided on the inside cover of the Green Study Guide. This list matches video titles to course topic titles and also provides LPC LRC call numbers.
- In addition to the ERV series, the Las Positas LRC (Learning Resource Center, or library), has a good collection of geology videos that can assist students with the basic concepts in this course. A list of the LPC geology videos is available in the first few pages of the Green Study Guide.

☞ **A Course Study Guide**; written by the instructor and containing practice exam questions

- The ‘Green Course Study Guide’ is available for purchase in the LPC Bookstore
- Contains most of the exam questions
- Contains geology video lists (with call numbers)
- Contains major Topic Outlines
- *Use this Study Guide to identify what you need to know about each course topic*
- Topics are not in the same order as the course textbook
- This is a Study Guide and **not** a replacement for the course textbook
- This Study Guide is a collection of Topic Outlines, Practice Exam Questions and the Instructor’s Notes. This Study Guide Collection changes every term and is not a formal textbook (there is no index, glossary or table of contents). The instructor is providing this study guide to help the students, but you must remember that the study guide is an informal collection of materials that changes every term.

☞ **Online photo collections**

- AGI Earth Science World Image Bank <http://www.earthscienceworld.org/imagebank/>
- Google Images – www.google.com – click on images before searching
- Geology by Lightplane by Louis J. Maher, Jr: <http://www.geology.wisc.edu/~maher/air.html>
- I have several personal online geology photo albums to assist intro geology students:
<http://community.webshots.com/user/rlhgeology> - for the lecture students
<http://community.webshots.com/user/rlhgeology2> - for the lab students
<http://community.webshots.com/user/rlhgeology3> - for oceanography students
- NGDC Geologic Hazards Photos <http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/fliers/se-0801.shtml>
- NASA's Visible Earth <http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/>

☞ **Geology 9-V01 Colloquium**

- This course is not offered every term. Check your class schedule listings to see if this class is offered during the term that you are taking this Geology 1 class.
- An optional one-unit Geology 9 study course on Fridays
- An *excellent* option for Geo 1 students – probably one of the best choices for facilitating student success - unfortunately, the course is not offered every term (see above).
- In past terms, students in the Geo 9 class have scored an average of 10% higher in the Geo 1 course when compared to Geo 1 students who were not in the Geo 9 class.
- The purpose of this one unit course is to assist students with studying for their Geo 1 course
- Group studying is encouraged
- Course grade is based on attendance and participation
- Students must be enrolled in Geo 9 in order to attend the Friday study sessions

☞ **The LPC Tutorial Center** – it's free for students currently enrolled at LPC☞ **The LPC Computer Center**

- for assistance with how to run the course Blackboard software

☞ **All course quizzes and exams** are available from the beginning of the term until their timeout dates. All course quizzes/exams may be taken an unlimited number of times before their timeout dates.

- You can complete this class as fast as you want to.
- You can take an exam and then go back and study some more and then retake the exam!

☞ **General-public-access geology websites** with basic geologic explanations and photos

- The USGS website <http://www.usgs.gov/>
- The National Earthquake Information Center <http://neic.usgs.gov/>
- Cascade Volcano Observatory <http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/home.html>
- Associated Bay Area Governments (ABAG) <http://www.abag.ca.gov/bayarea/eqmaps/>
- the NOAA National Geophysical Data Center
<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/>
- Color Landform Atlas of the United States by Ray Sterner
US Map: http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/states/us/us_map.html
Calif Map: http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/states/ca_0.html
- Nationalgeographic.com's Map Machine website US Theme Maps – Shaded Relief
<http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine>
- Earth and Moon Viewer <http://www.fourmilab.ch/earthview/vplanet.html>
- USGS/PG&E SF Bay Images – map view <http://www.sfbayquakes.org/mapview.html>
- Google Earth <http://earth.google.com/> Terra Server <http://www.terraserver.com>

Geology 9 Colloquium

No prerequisites. Transferable course. Bring your lunch.
Fridays 12:30-2:20pm – *check course listings for Spring 2009*

- ✓ **Homework study sessions**
- ✓ **Special topics for Geology 1 lecture**
 - ✓ **Exam Review Sessions**
 - ✓ **Geology 1 lab work groups**

*Note: Only students who are enrolled in Geo 9 can attend the Geo 9 study sessions.
Students who are not enrolled in the Geo 9 class can not attend the study sessions.
Students who want to enroll, but who can not attend all of the Friday sessions – see the information later in this syllabus for information on how to make up missed Fridays.*

Geology 9 Colloquium check course listings for Spring 2009	
Fri, Jan 23	Introduction to Course +Geologic Vocabulary Module 1 Homework: The Geologic Time Scale
Fri, Jan 30	Module 1 Homework: Radiometric Dating +Geologic Vocabulary
Fri, Feb 6	Module 1 Homework: Historical Geol/Life Through Time
Fri, Feb 13	President's Weekend
Fri, Feb 20	Module 3 Homework: Mass Wasting
Fri, Feb 27	Module 3 Homework: Deserts and Wind
Fri, Mar 6	Module 3 Homework: Metamorphic Rocks
Fri, Mar 13	Practice (w/samples) for Lab Midterm and/or Mod 3 exam
Fri, Mar 20	Module 5 Homework: Glaciers Practice (w/samples) for Lab Midterm
Fri, Mar 27	Module 5 Homework: Natural Resources
Fri, Apr 3	Module 6 Homework: Geologic Histories/Stratigraphy
Fri, Apr 10	Spring Break
Fri, Apr 17	Module 7 Homework: Groundwater, pt 1
Fri, Apr 24	Module 7 Homework: Groundwater pt. 2
Fri, May 1	Module 7 Homework: Planetary (ET) Geology
Fri, May 8	Module 8 Homework: Tsunamis
Fri, May 15	Module 8 Exam and Lab Online Quizzes

A Transferable College Course

Geology 1 transfers to almost all 4-year colleges and universities. The course content is dictated by these transferability agreements with the 4-year colleges and universities. *Your instructor does not determine the overall course content or what you are responsible for learning.*

→ **The required course content is Chapters 1-24 of your textbook.**

- ***You are responsible to learn the basics of Chapters 1-24 regardless of what topics are covered during scheduled class times.***
- ***If any classes are cancelled due to instructor illness, fire drills, evacuation situations, etc., you are still responsible for the basic scheduled content of each exam.*** After a cancelled class, the instructor will decide which scheduled class topic will have to be removed from the term's class-presentation schedule – the student has the responsibility of learning the material outside of class and that material must be included on exams.
- For any college course, you are responsible to learn more than is covered or discussed during class times.

In a nutshell: The student is responsible for the basic concepts of Chapters 1-24 regardless of what is covered in class, regardless of class cancellations and whether or not the student “connects” with the teaching style or the format of the class meetings.

The Professor does not choose course content nor the fundamentals that should be included on exams. The Professor only has a choice about how the class sessions are formatted; that is whether the Professor will give standard lectures, multi-media lectures, conduct group activities, term projects, in-class demonstrations, student presentations, etc. The Professor chooses which material will be discussed in class and how that material will be presented. Regardless of class session material, the student is responsible for outside class learning that supplements whatever is necessary for the student to learn the basic course content.

Read your course syllabus, stay up with the class, and keep track of and take responsibility for your own progress. It is college. The responsibilities are huge, the rewards are enormous. This is a great class - we will cover so much interesting material in this class and I work VERY HARD on my presentations...

Most college students are fully capable of learning most of the basic course content on their own – without assistance.

College students are expected to come to class having already spent whatever time was necessary to learn the basic concepts on their own. College students should come to class with questions that extrapolate beyond the basics presented in the textbook. The professor may then supply an answer or may then supply an opportunity for discussion and exploration of that question – the professor does not (necessarily) provide the answer to the question. The outcome of class time may be that the student may have identified where to go next to continue exploring the question.

That is college. That is what makes it different from high school.

College Student Responsibilities

1) **It is your responsibility to understand Chapters 1-24 by the end of this term.** This is a transferable course and neither your instructor nor LPC determines the volume of course content. It is your responsibility to learn the material in Chapters 1-24 as indicated before the posted exam dates. **If any classes are cancelled (e.g., due to instructor illness), you will have more responsibility for more material on your own.** The exams will cover the material in Chapters 1-24 regardless of what material was covered during the class time available.

The course textbook is the most complete source at your disposal. Presentations by the instructor and classroom activities will highlight and supplement some of the important concepts and principles that you must learn for this course. Almost all people learn best through experiencing the material in several different methods (e.g., hearing it, seeing it, reading it, practicing it, etc.); therefore in addition to the course textbook and classroom presentations I make available many varieties of **geohelp** (see my website for details and links). Each student must determine the combination of learning styles that is best for them. What is best for one student is NOT always the best combination of study materials for the next student. Do not be discouraged if you find that you need more repetition or more time to learn the material than others around you. Spend the time that you need.

2) **"Put in the time" -- attend ALL classes AND plan study time each week.** If you must miss a class, you must read the corresponding chapter in the textbook. You should also watch a geology video in the library instead of, or in addition to, the textbook chapter. Highly recommended is the video series Earth Revealed which was made as a telecourse - it is in half-hour sections that follow the basic topics of the intro geology course.

When I see a student who finds geology easy, I expect that student to continuously show me that they have spent time exploring geology beyond the basic concepts and to be watching the geology videos in the LPC library collection – especially the Earth Revealed Series.

When I see a student who is struggling with the basic concepts, I expect that student to be meeting with a tutor weekly, to be working on their review questions daily, to be looking up the vocabulary BEFORE coming to class, to be working the online vocabulary quizzes, to be watching all of the Earth Revealed videos, to be working in a study group, etc.

3) **Timeliness. You must be on time to class. You may not walk in late or leave early.**

Unfortunately, I have large classes and too many people have overbooked life-schedules and the result is that, without this rule, the doors in the back of the room are continuously opening and closing as people come late and leave early. This course requires a lot of visual media that require low (or dark) lighting and the opening and closing of doors obliterates the images on the screen. Consequently, **THE DOOR WILL BE LOCKED.** See the Basic Course Info pages for details. If you end up late, you will be better off not coming to class and getting notes from another student. Do not complain or whine to the instructor if you were late and/or missed class due to a personal appointment, traffic, etc.

If you miss extra credit in-class points because you were late to class (or missed class), you may use the online Extra Credit Quizzes to make-up the missed points.

If you have an appointment which occurs during class time, then you must miss the entire class – you may not attend the first part and then leave. Leaving class to use restrooms (illness excepted), get a drink of water, visit with friends, go to the airport, and similar activities constitute disruptive, disrespectful, rude behavior. You must schedule counseling and other such types of appointments at times that do not conflict with class.

5) It is your obligation to manage your own time schedule so that you can attend class, take ALL exams days before they timeout, **attend office hours when necessary**, and study throughout the term - not just before exams. **There are NO MAKE-UPS or special times for exams. It is your responsibility** to arrange vacations and hours of employment **that do not conflict** with the requirements of the class in which you have enrolled.

6) **Absolutely NO CELL PHONES, PAGERS**, Discmans, Ipods, etc. Cell phones must be silent in class. All calls must be taken outside of class - and either before or after class....calls should not be taken during class (except in the case of a documentable emergency). The ringing in-class is rude and disruptive, and **the instructor may drop you from the course if your cell phone or pager makes noise during class.**

7) NO TEXTING DURING CLASS, NO LAPTOPS ON DURING CLASS, NO WEB-SURFING DURING CLASS. If you want to do those things, then do not come to class; go somewhere else and text and web-surf and such. During class you should be listening to the presentation and taking notes.

8) **Office Hours. Any and all** special items that you need to discuss with me must be brought to my office hours. PLEASE DO NOT attempt to discuss issues during the few minutes right before or right after one of my classes. I try very hard to come prepared to class. I attempt to construct and perform demonstrations, slide-shows, in-class computer presentations and other materials - I can not set these materials up in time for class if I am holding "impromptu office hours".

When you come to office hours with course exam study questions, you must bring your green Study Guide with all review questions up-to-date and you must have proof that you have attempted to answer your questions through several sources including the course textbook, fellow students and the internet. Your textbook has an index and a glossary. Geologic Dictionaries are available on-line and in Rm 1824 during my office hours. The instructor will not be able to assist you until after you have explored these materials and sources for information.

9) **You are responsible** at all times for your own progress.

10) **Do not assume that I will drop you from the class** if you stop attending or if you are failing the course. It is important that **you keep track** of your progress and attendance. You must make sure that you are aware of all drop and withdrawal dates.

College Student Responsibilities (continued)

10) **Respect for me at all times** (even when we disagree). This means a) no "chitchat" while I am lecturing; b) no "sleeping or dozing" during class; c) no passing of notes or writing on other's notebooks; and d) no disparaging remarks about groups to which you do not belong.

11) **Please respect my time** - please do not try and "catch me" at times other than my office hours. I generally teach 6-7 classes and have around 250 students per semester. In addition to preparing and teaching classes, I also have weekly obligations to the college. I generally work 8-10 hour days. Please respect my time. If I'm in my office and it's not during office hours, then I am working on something. I don't "hang out" here.

12) **Respect for your classmates at all times** (even when you disagree).

13) **Be polite during office hours.** When attending the instructor's office hours, all students must be polite and wait their turn. You will most probably not be dealt with first. Everyone is busy and everyone has other classes, jobs, appointments and commitments. Everyone is busy. Do NOT act like a spoiled brat that should not have to wait its turn. Leave the attitude outside. Be polite and be mature. When you come to office hours, sign in and then you will have to wait - there may be many other students with difficult issues that also need to see the instructor. You may have to wait more than a half-hour or even more than an hour. All students will be treated equally and fairly.

14) **Questions you may never ask me:** "Did I miss anything important?" and "Can I make up my exam?" and "What are your office hours?".... (my office hours are on the front page of your course syllabus, posted on my door and posted on my website.....).

Read your course syllabus, stay up with the class, and keep track of and take responsibility for your own progress. It is college. The responsibilities are huge, the rewards are enormous. This is a great class - we will cover so much interesting material in this class and I work VERY HARD on my presentations...

The Professor's Responsibilities

The Professor does not choose course content. Because this is a transferable course, the course content is dictated by the 4-year schools and universities. If we want this class to transfer, the course content must cover the material listed in the official course outline (see the LPC webpage for a listing of course outlines).

College Professors are paid to:

- Critique and evaluate the student's knowledge of required course concepts
- Be a resource for geology students (NOT to give the answer to every question)
- Offer formal office hours each week.
- Oversee the Geology Program; development, curriculum, materials, support personnel, ordering of supplies, etc.
- Contribute to the LPC academic community; attend meetings; produce reports such as Program Review; participate in Accreditation, etc.
- See my website for more details on the responsibilities of a college professor.

Not the Professor's Responsibility (not paid to):

- Give you the answer to every question that you ask – it is your responsibility to find the answers and it is not the professor's responsibility to make that easy
- Conduct individual tutoring; the college has a free tutorial service and professors are not allowed time in their weekly schedules to accommodate personal tutoring.
- Offer individual office hours or appointments that meet each student's personal life schedule. With 250 students/term, I can not handle the number of students who prefer special appointments and special accommodations. Since it is unfair to offer special appointments to some students without offering them to all students, I can not offer them to any students.
- Provide individual exam times for students with individual circumstances. Students with documented learning disabilities or physical handicaps work with the LPC DSPS which can offer special accommodations as warranted.
- Provide or accept extra credit; if an instructor allows extra credit, this is extra work for the instructor. I generally allow a few possibilities for extra credit – but never forget that extra credit is a privilege, not a right.
- Provide pencils, scantrons, erasers, paper, kleenex, etc.

A College Professor is like a Coach....Consider this analogy: you hire a fitness coach so that you can run a 10K three months from now. The coach sets up a regimen of training runs and recommended physical exercises. The coach offers advice and critiques your progress. Who has to do the training and exercises? You do. The coach sets up the plan, gives advice and critiques progress. You have to do the work. You have to run the practice 5K's and you have to do the Stairmaster and the stationary bike at 5am because that's the only time that it will fit into your schedule. And at the end of three months, who runs the 10K? You do. If you have done ALL of the training runs and ALL of the weekly exercises, then you have the best shot at finishing the 10K. No one else can run it for you.

A college course is very similar to the scenario above. A college professor oversees a course and critiques your progress. Your professor is not your tutor – I have 250 students and it is impossible to tutor all of those individuals at the same time. A professor is someone with specific expertise that is hired to set-up and oversee a course. The course may have traditional verbal presentations, or the course may include multi-media presentations– or may not have any presentations by the instructor – or the course may include student-group work and/or student presentations – or may be a distance education course. There are a wide spectrum of potential class formats. In a college class, your professor does not have to give a single presentation.

In the end, you have to “run the 10K” –and you are the one who has to learn the material and you are the one who has to perform on the exams. Never place the responsibility for your learning anywhere but with yourself.

My Personal Teaching Philosophy and Goals

A) I strive to prepare presentations that have learning and retention at the forefront. I believe that the time that you spend in class should be worthwhile - that you should feel that you truly LEARNED and that the class is worth the time.

B) I will NOT just be a verbal textbook. Such is the classic college lecture - a very passive form of learning for the student. Hopefully, this classroom format will die out and become extinct. Unfortunately, the classic lecture format is also the easiest to prepare and present. I will attempt to avoid this at all costs - I will often try to bring, prepare and develop demonstrations, slide-shows and/or computer image shows...etc. However, my format of presentations often dictates that I end-up running a 3-ring circus of materials and equipment. I can use all of your help to make it work - and I will need the 10-15 minutes just prior and after each class to set-up, test and/or tear down the equipment.

C) Unfortunately, I am not allowed the time to individually tutor each student - I am only allowed the time to give classroom presentations and to hold a few office hours each week (to see the larger picture of what a college professor must do, visit my Geology website). Therefore, it is each student's responsibility to make sure that they learn the material. **To assist all students, I have prepared and/or will try to make available a multi-dimensional, multi-sensory course with variations on and selections from the following:**

- "thought-out" presentations
- in-class slide shows
- in-class use of CD-ROM animations
- in-class use of Internet resources if they are appropriate and available
- in-class, ungraded quizzes to help you test yourself and prepare for exams
- A Course Study Guide with Exam Practice Questions available for you at the bookstore
- a geology website for your course with course information
- materials on reserve in the LRC to help you study
- office hours
- a quality course textbook with a CD-ROM
- a list of geology videos available in the LRC

Emergency Procedures

IF THE FIRE ALARM GOES OFF:

1. Exit the room calmly and promptly

- we may be able to go back to class in just a few minutes or
- we may not be allowed back into the building for hours
- ***make sure that you have your car keys and ID*** so that you can drive home when school officials allow us to do so
- Please do not stay in the building while the alarm is going off – the alarms are loud enough that they drive most people from the building – please take the hint and leave the building

2. Our class will exit the building down the stairs near the elevator

3. Normally, our class will meet just beyond the small parking lot behind the Science Building.

In the area between the parking lot and the school's perimeter road

>> Changing construction may revise these directions – watch posted signage for directions.

4. We will have to wait until school officials inform us as to whether we can re-enter the building and when we can do so.

5. If the campus is closed for several hours and students have to leave the campus without their books, etc:

School officials will collect the materials from each classroom and take them to the Security Office where students may reclaim them – *always make sure that you have your first and last name on all of your books and other personal belongings* that you bring to school.

6. Missed or cancelled class time, classes or exams

- **The school does not reschedule missed or cancelled class times**
students must read that material on their own before the next exam
- **Missed or cancelled exams will not be rescheduled** – *make sure that you take all online exams well before their timeout deadline (days ahead of time)*

EARTHQUAKES

- **If an earthquake occurs during class, take cover under your tables.**
 - Stay away from the windows and any broken glass.
- **When it is safe to do, the class will exit and follow the emergency procedures listed above.**
- **Please be careful – lecture classrooms are designed as auditorium seating**
Remember, you will need to slide your chairs in to be able to exit along the rows between the tables.

GEOLOGY – the study of the earth

Geology 1 is the foundation course for geologic science and is the first course in geology for both geology majors and non-majors. For this course to transfer to 4-year colleges and universities, you must learn and become proficient in the basic content and concepts in Chapters 1-24 of the course textbook.

COMMON QUESTIONS

- why are there mountains? why are there earthquakes?
- why do the continents on either side of the Atlantic look like they fit together?
- why are there oceanic seashells in the rocks at the tops of mountains?
- what is at the center of the earth?, etc.

COURSE OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

- Basic Earth Size and Structure; Atmosphere, Ocean, Inside the Earth
- Formation of the Earth, Atmosphere and Oceans

GEOLOGIC PROCESSES

- Plate Tectonics
- Minerals and Rocks
- Igneous Processes and Rocks
- Vulcanism
- Sedimentology/Sedimentary Rocks
- The Hydrologic Cycle
- Erosion and Weathering
- Mass Wasting
- River Systems
- Oceanic and Shoreline Systems
- Groundwater Systems
- Glacial Systems & Global Climate

- Aeolian Systems
- Geomorphology: Landforms
- Metamorphic Processes and Rocks
- Seismology and Earthquakes
- Natural Resources

APPLICATIONS

- Prospecting
- Historical Geology
 - Brief Earth History
 - Brief History of Life
- Geology of Other Planets
- Environmental Geology
- California Geology

Course and Module Topics

match the topics to the chapter titles in the textbook
and refer to the Green Study Guide for topic details

In order to facilitate learning and communication between the students taking this course in a distance ed format and students taking the course in a standard lecture-class format, both classes will follow my lecture-class sequence of topics and will have the same exam timeout dates (the final exam may be an exception). Consequently, students can study together regardless of which class they are enrolled in.

Students in my distance ed sections are welcome to attend my lecture classes – if you notify me ahead of time (I have to make sure that I will have enough seats). My lecture class sequence of topics is Module 2 followed by Module 4, then Module 6 and finally Module 8. Modules 1, 3, 5 and 7 are homework topics that are not covered during scheduled lectures (although some homework topics may be covered in the Friday Geology 9 course).

HOMEWORK CHAPTERS	LECTURE TOPICS
<p>MODULE 1 Intro To The Earth: Ch. 1 Geologic Time: Ch. 1, 9 & 22</p> <p>Module 1 is homework while we are covering Module 2 content in class. The exams for Modules 1 and 2 timeout at the same time.</p>	<p>MODULE 2 Intro To The Earth: Ch. 1 Plate Tectonics: Ch. 2, 12, 13, 14 & 22</p>
<p>MODULE 3 Mass Wasting: Ch. 15 Deserts: Ch. 19 Metamorphic Rocks: Ch. 8</p> <p>Module 3 is homework while we are covering Module 4 content in class. The exams for Modules 3 and 4 timeout at the same time.</p>	<p>MODULE 4 An Intro To Rocks and Minerals: Ch. 1 & 3 Igneous Rocks: Ch. 4 Volcanoes: Ch. 5</p>
<p>MODULE 5 Glaciers: Ch. 18 Global Climate: Ch. 21 Natural Resources: Ch. 23</p> <p>Module 5 is homework while we are covering Module 6 content in class. The exams for Modules 5 and 6 timeout at the same time.</p>	<p>MODULE 6 Sedimentology/Stratigraphy: Ch. 7 & 9 Weathering/Erosion: Ch. 6 Rivers: Ch. 16</p>
<p>MODULE 7 Groundwater: Ch. 17 Planetary Geology: Ch. 24</p> <p>Module 7 is homework while we are covering Module 8 content in class. The exams for Modules 7 and 8 timeout at the same time.</p>	<p>MODULE 8 Shorelines/Beaches: Ch. 20 Geomorphology (Landforms) Structural Geology: Faults & Folds: Ch. 10 Earthquakes & Seismology: Inside the Earth: Ch. 11 & 12</p>

I usually prepare multimedia presentations on course topics; these include slides, CD-ROMs, video clips, demos and verbal explanation of course concepts. Consequently, because there are only so many scheduled class meetings, there is not time to read aloud vocabulary definitions – and this would be a ridiculous waste of class time anyway – you have the definitions in your text!

For the first 5-6 weeks, I will try to work the topics fairly slowly and carefully in class so that all students can get the basics of geology and an intro to global plate tectonics. Concurrently, you (the student) must learn the basics of the geologic time scale and the content of Module 1.

As the semester progresses and you obtain the foundations of plate tectonics, geologic time and rocks and minerals, the course will pick up some speed (in terms of vocabulary/week) and there will be the expectation that you will demonstrate more and more geologic knowledge on each exam. At the beginning of the course, most students do not know much geology...or how to interpret photos...or how to interpret geology...but as the class progresses, your skills will develop and build and you will begin to master geologic concepts and processes.

To assist students at the beginning of the course, I will usually have review quizzes playing at the beginning of each class. These quizzes are 5-minute shotgun quizzes that you should attempt to answer without using your notes. If you have reviewed your notes before class, then you should be able to answer the quiz questions fairly well. However, if you have not reviewed your notes before class, you may find the quiz questions difficult. Do not copy the answers from your notes. Learn the material – that is what is important. The purpose of these quizzes is to help you identify some of the important concepts from the previous class meeting. The purpose is to help you perform better on the exams!

As the course progresses, however, time becomes more limited, and these in-class review quizzes will become less frequent so that I may present more slides and explanations of course concepts. Hopefully, your study skills in learning geologic concepts will have developed so that you know how to review these concepts on your own. It's all about time. If you can put in the time, you can get an A. But it will probably take a lot of time.....

Vocabulary Quiz Checklist

- Look up and write down the definitions** for the words listed in the Vocabulary section of the Green Physical Geology Study Guide. There is room in the Vocabulary List for you to write out the definitions for most of the words.

- Work the Exam Practice Questions** in the Vocabulary section of the Green Study Physical Geology Study Guide. You should have already looked up (and written out) the definitions of most of the words used in these questions; however, as you are working through the questions, if you encounter additional words that you are unfamiliar with, look them up before moving to the next question.

- Take the Online Vocabulary Quiz**

MODULE 1 Checklist

You may do the Module 1 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
 (you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Introduction to the Earth
- Formation of the Earth
- Geologic Time/Historical Geology

And, please remember that the Green Study Guide is an informal collection of the Instructor's notes, lecture outlines and practice exam questions.

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 1: Intro to Geology
- CD-ROM Chapter 9: Geologic Time

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 1: Introduction to Geology and the Earth
- Chapter 9: Geologic Time
- Chapter 22: Earth's Evolution Through Time

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 1: Down To Earth <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 3: Earth's Interior | <p>Introduction to the Earth</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 2: Earth Becoming Alive | <p>Formation of the Earth</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 10: Geologic Time <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 11: Evolution Through Time | <p>Geologic Time/Historical Geology</p> |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 *and* MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 *and* MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM's – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

Take the Module 1 Exam

Reminder: Modules 1 & 2 timeout at the same time

(see course calendar for dates)

<p>MODULE 1</p> <p>Intro To The Earth: Ch. 1 Geologic Time: Ch. 1, 9 & 22</p>	<p>MODULE 2</p> <p>Intro To The Earth: Ch. 1 Plate Tectonics: Ch. 2, 12, 13, 14 & 22</p>
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For students in the courses with scheduled lectures, Module 1 is homework and Module 2 contains topics covered in lecture. All students enrolled in the Distance Ed section of Geology 1 are welcome to attend the instructor's lectures; however, please let the instructor know ahead of time (if too many DE students want to attend the lectures, there won't be enough seats). To notify the instructor, please stop by the instructor's office hours, or send an email at least a week ahead of time.

MODULE 2 Checklist

You may do the Module 2 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Plate Tectonics

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 2 – **make sure that you go through this section thoroughly!*
- CD-ROM Chapter 13 & 14
- CD-ROM Chapter 12 – the section on the Earth’s magnetic field
- Plus: A Special Plate Tectonics CD-ROM - **Excellent**; this special CD-ROM is only available during the instructor’s office hours

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 2: Plate Tectonics – intensively – you need to know this chapter **very** well
The concepts in this chapter are used in almost every other chapter in the book!
- Chapter 13: Divergent Boundaries: The Ocean Floor
- Chapter 12: the section on the Earth’s magnetic field
- Chapter 22: Earth’s Evolution Through Time

Highly recommended videos

- CD-ROM: Plate Tectonics *********
great CD-ROM
- ER part 5: The Birth of a Theory
- ER part 4: The Sea Floor
- ER part 6: Plate Dynamics
- PE part 1: The Living Machine

Plate Tectonics

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 *and* MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 *and* MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM’s – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Module 1** – the Module 2 exam will include review of Module 1

Take the Module 2 Exam

MODULE 3 Checklist

You may do the Module 3 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Mass Wasting
- Desert/Aeolian Systems
- Metamorphic Rocks

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 15: Mass Wasting
- CD-ROM Chapter 19: Deserts and Winds
- CD-ROM Chapter 8: Metamorphic Rocks

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 15: Mass Wasting
- Chapter 19: Deserts and Winds
- Chapter 8: Metamorphic Rocks

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 16: Mass Wasting | Mass Wasting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 22: Wind, Dust and Deserts | Deserts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 18: Metamorphic Rocks | Metamorphic Rocks |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 *and* MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 *and* MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

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Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Modules 1 and 2** – the Module 3 exam will include review of Modules 1 and 2.

Take the Module 3 Exam

Reminder: Modules 3 & 4 timeout at the same time

(see course calendar for dates)

MODULE 3	MODULE 4
Mass Wasting: Ch. 15	An Intro To Rocks and Minerals: Ch. 1 & 3
Deserts: Ch. 19	Igneous Rocks: Ch. 4
Metamorphic Rocks: Ch. 8	Volcanoes: Ch. 5

For students in the courses with scheduled lectures, Module 3 is homework and Module 4 contains topics covered in lecture. All students enrolled in the Distance Ed section of Geology 1 are welcome to attend the instructor's lectures; however, please let the instructor know ahead of time (if too many DE students want to attend the lectures, there won't be enough seats). To notify the instructor, please stop by the instructor's office hours, or send an email at least a week ahead of time.

MODULE 4 Checklist

You may do the Module 4 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide

(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- An Intro To Rocks and Minerals
- Igneous Rocks
- Volcanoes

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 3: Matter and Minerals
- CD-ROM Chapter 4: Igneous Rocks
- CD-ROM Chapter 5: Volcanoes

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 3: Matter and Minerals
- Chapter 4: Igneous Rocks
- Chapter 5: Volcanoes

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM: Minerals | Minerals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 12: Minerals | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Minerals CDROM by Dennis Tasa | |
| | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM: Rocks | Rocks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Rocks CDROM by Dennis Tasa | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 14: Intrusive Igneous Rocks | Igneous Rocks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 13: Volcanism | |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 *and* MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 *and* MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM's – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Modules 1, 2 and 3** – the Module 4 exam will include review of Modules 1, 2 and 3.

Take the Module 4 Exam

MODULE 5 Checklist

You may do the Module 5 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Glaciers & Global Climate
- Natural Resources

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 18: Glaciers

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 18: Glaciers
- Chapter 21: Global Climate Change
- Chapter 23: Energy and Mineral Resources

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 23: Glaciers | Glaciers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PE part 3: The Climate Puzzle (Ice Ages) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 26: Living With The Earth, part 2 | Mineral and Energy
Resources
and Environmental
Geology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PE part 5: Gifts From the Earth | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PE part 7: Fate of the Earth | |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 and MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 and MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM's – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Modules 1 thru 4** – the Module 5 exam will include review of Modules 1-4.

Take the Module 5 Exam

Reminder: Modules 5 & 6 timeout at the same time

(see course calendar for dates)

MODULE 5	MODULE 6
Glaciers: Ch. 18	Sedimentology/Stratigraphy: Ch. 7 & 9
Global Climate: Ch. 21	Weathering/Erosion: Ch. 6
Natural Resources: Ch. 23	Rivers: Ch. 16

For students in the courses with scheduled lectures, Module 5 is homework and Module 6 contains topics covered in lecture. All students enrolled in the Distance Ed section of Geology 1 are welcome to attend the instructor's lectures; however, please let the instructor know ahead of time (if too many DE students want to attend the lectures, there won't be enough seats). To notify the instructor, please stop by the instructor's office hours, or send an email at least a week ahead of time.

MODULE 6 Checklist

You may do the Module 6 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Sedimentology/Stratigraphy
- Weathering/Erosion
- Rivers

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM Chapter 7: Sedimentary Rocks/Stratigraphy
- CD-ROM Chapter 6: Weathering/Erosion
- CD-ROM Chapter 16: Running Water (Rivers)

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 7: Sedimentary Rocks/Stratigraphy
- Chapter 6: Weathering/Erosion
- Chapter 16: Running Water (Rivers)

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 17: Sedimentary Rocks | Sedimentology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 15: Weathering and Soils | Weathering/Erosion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 19: Running Water 1 | Rivers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 20: Running Water 2: (<i>Landform Evolution</i>) | |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 and MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 and MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM's – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Modules 1 thru 5**– the Module 6 exam will include review of Modules 1-5.

Take the Module 6 Exam

MODULE 7 Checklist

You may do the Module 7 checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections (you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Groundwater
- The Geology of Other Planets

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM: Chapter 17: Groundwater
- CD-ROM: Explore the Planets CD-ROM – available during the instructor’s office hours

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 17: Groundwater
- Chapter 24: Planetary Geology

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 21: Groundwater | Groundwater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PE part 6: Tales From Other Worlds | Geology of Other Planets (ET Geology) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM: Explore the Planets | |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 and MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 and MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

CD-ROM’s – are only available during my regularly scheduled office hours in Rm 1824

Note: Be Careful when checking out these videos – check your tape titles before you leave the library... *For example, Tape 3 may have parts 9 thru 12 on it (and not part 3!).*

- Review Modules 1 thru 6**– the Module 7 exam will include review of Modules 1-6.

Take the Module 7 Exam

Reminder: Modules 7 & 8 timeout at the same time

<p>MODULE 7 Groundwater: Ch. 17 Planetary Geology: Ch. 24</p>	<p>MODULE 8 Shorelines/Beaches: Ch. 20 Geomorphology (Landforms) Structural Geology: Faults & Folds: Ch. 10 Earthquakes & Seismology: Inside the Earth: Ch. 11 & 12</p>
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For students in the courses with scheduled lectures, Module 7 is homework and Module 8 contains topics covered in lecture. All students enrolled in the Distance Ed section of Geology 1 are welcome to attend the instructor’s lectures.

Module 8 Checklist

You may do this checklist in whatever order you choose.

Work the Exam Practice Questions in the Green Study Guide for the following sections
(you have most of the actual exam questions in this study guide)

- Shorelines/Beaches
- Geomorphology (Landforms)
- Structural Geology: Faults & Folds
- Earthquakes & Seismology: Inside the Earth

Textbook CD-ROM – interactive!

- CD-ROM: Chapter 20: Shorelines
- CD-ROM: Chapter 10: Structural Geology: Crustal Deformation
- CD-ROM: Chapter 11: Earthquakes
- CD-ROM: Chapter 12: Earth's Interior
- CD-ROM: Chapters 13 & 14: Plate Boundaries

Textbook Chapters

- Chapter 20: Shorelines
- Chapter 10: Structural Geology: Crustal Deformation
- Chapter 11: Earthquakes
- Chapter 12: Earth's Interior
- Chapters 13 & 14: Plate Boundaries

Highly recommended videos

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 24: Waves, Beaches and Coasts | Shorelines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 8: Earth's Structures | Structural Geology (folds and faults) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special CD-ROM by Dennis Tasa: Topographic Maps | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 9: Earthquakes | Earthquakes/Seismology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 26: Living With The Earth, part 1 (<i>Loma Prieta</i>) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ER part 3: Earth's Interior | Inside the Earth |

ER= Earth Revealed Video Series: MV 23599 and MV 23111 *and* MV 208853 (*Chabot copy*)

PE= Planet Earth Video Series: MV 21480 *and* MV 208375 (*Chabot copy*)

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- Review Modules 1 thru 7**– this exam will include review of Modules 1-7.

Take the Module 8 Exam

The Module 8 Exam is in 2 parts. Part 1 is the first 20 points (10 questions). When you have scored 18 or higher on Part 1, then Part 2 will become available. Part 2 is worth 180 points. Part 2 will also become available 2 weeks before the timeout date, regardless of whether or not you have attempted Part 1.

