

DEPARTMENT: Geosciences

COURSE PREFIX: GSC

COURSE NUMBER: 339

CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE:

Field Geology

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S):

A course designed to acquaint the student with field and laboratory techniques in the geologic, environmental, and archaeological fields. Emphasis is placed on the techniques of field surveying, and mapping; locational assessment utilizing GPS; orienteering with compass and topographic maps; soil sampling and description; remote and direct hydrologic assessment; and land cover/land use mapping. Field trips will be taken to locations of geologic or environmental significance to the region.

Prerequisite(s): junior standing or permission of instructor.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to

- A. Understand the theory and practice of field geology
- B. Understand the basic principles of problem solving using computers
- C. Apply computer techniques to a number of geological situations

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:

- A. Geologic Mapping
- B. GPS
- C. Stratigraphy
- D. Geologic Structures
- E. Geomorphology
- F. Soil Sampling and description
- G. Field Notebooks

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The course is usually taught as a two week field trip during May

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:

This is primarily a field course

VII. TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:

To be provided. This course will rely primarily on readings and notes from a number of sources.

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

Assessment of student accomplishment will be keyed to the course purpose and objectives. Student accomplishment will be measured by performance in:

- A. Small group activities in the field
- B. Detailed field notebook of course activities

It is expected that the grade for this course will be determined as follows:

1. Field notebook - worth 2/3 of overall grade.
2. Small group activities in the field - worth 1/3 of overall grade.
A= >90% B= 80-90 C= 70-80 D= 60-70 E=<60

Any changes to this grading procedure will be announced in class.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletins.

Classroom attendance is strongly encouraged. Much of the understanding of the course concepts is expected to come from classroom discussions and activities. Attendance will be taken during lecture. Students absent from more than 8 lecture sessions will receive reduced credit for their overall grade. NOTE: Individual lecture make-up exams will not be given. If a student is absent from a scheduled lecture exam, the exam may be made up in a comprehensive exam offered during Final Exam week. Each student is permitted only one make-up lecture exam

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

Note: Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any examination or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the examination has been compromised.

XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Director of Equal Opportunity, 103 Wells Hall. 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

XII. Other required departmental or collegiate committee information

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