

## **GEOL G100-05I Fall 2012 Syllabus**

***Instructor:*** Dr. S. Isiorho    Office: SB236  
***Teaching Assistant (TA):*** Ms. D. Westgerdes

Phone: (260) 481-6249

**Check Blackboard regularly for E-mail, announcements, and postings.**

Listed below are items in the syllabus. Links throughout this syllabus are in **blue**. Click on a blue link to access the information written in blue. Lecture outlines (notes) are available for this online course. Links in the lecture outlines show drawings that may be important in your exams. Read the entire syllabus before asking questions. The course is divided into four units and each unit has a minimum of an assignment and one exam.

### **ITEMS**

- 1. Course Description**
- 2. Textbook**
- 3. Important Dates, Assignments,**
- 4. Teaching Assistant's Welcome Letter**
- 5. Test Information**
- 6. Assignment Instructions for Volcano, Earthquake, and Rock Reports**
- 7. 10 Photograph Project Instructions**
- 8. Personal Experience Report Instructions**
- 9. Discussion Board Posting Assignment Instructions**
- 10. Unit I**
- 11. Unit II**
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- 15. Power-point Presentation**
- 16. Website Links**
- 17. Grading Rubric**

**Code of Student Rights, Responsibility, and Conduct:**

Students are strongly advised to know the Code of Student Rights, Responsibility, and Conduct that can be found in the Student Handbook and Planner that is published each fall semester. Students are expected to read and understand the Code as it relates to cheating, plagiarizing, and aiding and abetting others to cheat and/or plagiarize. Students caught cheating and/or plagiarizing on tests, reports, or projects will receive a zero for that portion of the course.

**"Part I.B.3 Individual Rights and Responsibility as Students**

*In the classroom, students have the freedom to raise relevant issues pertaining to classroom discussion, to offer reasonable doubts about data presented, and to express alternate opinions to those discussed. However, in exercising this freedom, students shall not interfere with the academic process of the class."*

**Students with Disabilities:**

Students needing assistance or special arrangements should contact the "Services for Students with Disabilities" office as soon as possible to make arrangements for special needs. Students who obtain the necessary documentation attesting to their need and submit it to the professor will be accommodated. Students having questions regarding the course content, or instructions posted in this syllabus are requested to email Dr. Isiorho through Blackboard email. SSD is located in WB113. Their telephone number is (260) 481-6658.

Dr. Isiorho can be reached by telephone. If he is away from his desk at the time of your call, please leave a message on the voice mail system. Dr. Isiorho will return your call within 48 hours except for calls made from Friday through Sunday. As an online class, assume you are taking the class from Casablanca.

Blackboard email will be answered within 48 hours of posting, except those sent on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. If there is no response within 48 hours, assume your mail was not received and send it again.

Do NOT use email to submit assignments. Assignments not submitted through Blackboard assignment drop box will not be graded.

## **1. Course Description:**

General geology is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of physical geology and an introduction to structural geology. During the course, students will study Earth materials, changes on the surface and in the interior of Earth, and the dynamic forces that cause them to change. Students should be able to locate physical features such as rivers, lakes, or mountain chains, and should be able to relate geology to environmental problems and natural hazards.

The course is divided into four units, each unit has a minimum of one written assignment or project, and one examination.

Letter grades are based on the following accumulation of points:

A 90 - 100

B 80 - 89

C 70 - 79

D 60 - 69

F 00 – 59

**May add + & - to the letter grade.**

## **2 Textbook Information:**

Geology by Chernicoff and Whitney, 4th Edition ... **You have the option to rent your textbook ... for more information "you may visit [www.Rent-a-text.com](http://www.Rent-a-text.com) or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jason Kahlenbeck at 260.483.6100 or [0281txt@fhcg.follett.com](mailto:0281txt@fhcg.follett.com)"**

Students are encouraged to use all of the available resources, the text book, class notes, power point presentation prepared by two former students, and website links.

### 3. Important Dates (Exams and Assignments):

Tests and Extra Credit Assignments are scored by computer. Written Assignments and Discussion Board Postings are graded by the Teaching assistant (TA).

\* Extra Credit Assignments generate one additional point for each of the following: Learned Report (write between 3 to 5-sentence on what you hope to learn in and from this course) and Post learn report (Write a 5-10 sentence of what you learned in this course and relate it to your learned report). Pre quiz and post quiz scores will be added to test #4 scores.

ITEMS (Exams & Assignments)	Due Date	Possible Points	Course Points	Comments
First Day of class	Aug 20	0	0	Aug 20
Practice test	Aug 20-31	0	0	Practice
Pre-quiz	Aug 20-22	10	Points	will be added to test 4
Learned	Aug 24	1	Bonus	Bonus 1%
Test 1	Sept 10-12	100	20	
10 Photograph Project	Sept 14	5	5	Pref your own pictures
Rock Report	Sept 28	5	5	Only rocks from IPFW Geo-garden
Test 2	Oct 10-12	100	20	
Earthquake Certificate	Oct 26	5	5	Your name must be on certificate
Test 3	Nov 7-9	100	20	Lowest 1st 3 test scores will be dropped
Discharge Certificate	Nov 19	5	5	Your name must be on certificate
Flood Certificate	Nov 19	5	5	Your name must be on certificate
Discussion Board Postings	Aug 20- Nov 25	10	10	Your picture with introduction required
Personal Water report	Nov 26	5	5	
Post learn report	Nov 30	1	Bonus	Bonus 1%
Post-quiz	Dec 3-5	10	Points	will be added to test 4
Test 4	Dec 10-12	100	20	
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>462</b>	<b>100</b>	

#### 4 Teaching Assistant's Welcome letter

GEOL G100-05I, Professor Isiorho, Fall Semester 2012 Welcome Letter Westgerdes 1

Students:

Welcome to Dr. Isiorho's online geology class! This course involves the standard requirements of reading the text, viewing the lecture PowerPoints, and taking exams; however, the class also requires written reports and discussion board postings. These two areas are essential for the fact that they make up 40% of the course. As students, it is important to plan ahead and submit assignments early to avoid any computer issues or eLearning (Blackboard) malfunctions!

Please read the syllabus carefully. It contains all of the policies of this course. Dr. Isiorho is the course administrator and determines the course policy. As the Teaching Assistant, I do not hold the power to change course policy. If a student wishes to request a change in the policy, for example the extension of a deadline, he or she MUST send the request directly to Dr. Isiorho.

#### **A note about PLAGIARISM:**

- Every sentence written must be in your OWN words.
- Using a series of five or more words that has been taken directly from another's work is plagiarism.
- Every sentence that is not a product of your own scientific research must have an appropriate in-text citation immediately following the text AND must be correctly cited in the "References Cited" section. The in-text citation is still necessary even if the sentence has been written in your own words.
- Students who submit a paper containing plagiaristic sentences will earn a ZERO for the report (Isiorho, 2005). This parenthetical phrase is an example of a correct APA in-text citation for one author.

#### **Scoring:**

- All assignments should reflect your best work.
  - Points are deducted from the maximum point value of the assignment, which can be found in the rubric.
  - Reports need to include STATEMENTS only. No questions should be posted in a report. The student's goal is to discuss the assigned topic through the information presented within the report.
  - Avoid QUOTES in the reports. Quotes should be reserved for nonscientific papers.
  - Appropriate submissions are written with a formal writing style.
- EXCEPTION: The last assignment regarding a personal water experience should be written in the first person.

### **Written Report Instructions:**

This letter serves as additional instructions for the written assignments. Additional instructions for these assignments can be found under the Assignment Tab in Blackboard and the syllabus.

Writing standards to be followed:

- One-inch margins all around.
- Times New Roman 12 point font.
- Double-spaced report (this letter is NOT an example of double spaced writing.)
- Introductory and concluding paragraphs.
- Proper use of grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- One space after sentence ending punctuation.
- Formal writing style.
- Proofread your work.

As a reminder, the following are requirements for the written assignments. This information is found in the syllabus and MUST be followed:

- Report length of no more than 1 page.
- Critical information for each paper must be put into a header as demonstrated above.
- The filename of assignments should be submitted with this format:  
    LastnameReportname. Example: WestgerdesVolcano
- Each file is to be submitted ONLY under the correct assignment into the Assignment Dropbox located in Blackboard. No emailing assignments to Dr. Isiorho or myself will be accepted. Students will only receive one attempt to submit assignments.
- Each file is to be submitted ONLY in the “pdf” format.
- The first page is the report and should be labeled with a page number “1.” The second page is the APA formatted “References Cited” and should be labeled with a page number “2.”
- Proper in-text citations of any reference sources are to be used.
- All facts should be double checked for accuracy.

A note about APA-formatted references:

- The format needs to be followed exactly. For example, if a single period or comma is left out, the entire “References Cited” section is incorrect.
- Become familiar with APA requirements. The Purdue OWL website is a good site to double check formatting. There are different formats depending on what type of source you use, like books, websites, encyclopedias, etc.
- Students are required to use a minimum of three SUITABLE references when researching information for each written report.
- NON-SUITABLE references include Wikipedia and About.com.
- SUITABLE references have an author that can be cited.

Again, all requirements for written assignments can be found in the syllabus. All assignments are graded using Dr. Isiorho’s rubric. Students should email the pdf file to themselves before

submitting it to the assignment box to make sure everything is correct. Formatting errors will appear if one has not followed the instructions.

**Discussion board postings:**

REQUIRED:

GEOL G100-05I, Professor Isiorho, Fall Semester 2012 Welcome Letter Westgerdes 3

- An introduction AND a photograph of yourself.
- Over the time span stated in the syllabus, students are required to make two intelligent and meaningful postings per week.
- You should put thought into your post AND make sure it is posted in the correct topic thread.
- Avoid previously posted information.
- A week is Monday through Sunday.
- Students may post more than once a day, BUT know that only one post will be graded for each date. (Therefore, you cannot complete all of your postings for the week in one day.)
- Be considerate and polite to others.
- Comments on topics other than the topic thread or inappropriate statements are not acceptable. Those postings will not be scored.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Isiorho or myself with any questions regarding the material. However, we encourage the use of the available tools, i.e. syllabus, textbook, and PowerPoint, lecture notes (outlines) before contacting us with trivial questions. I look forward to helping you succeed throughout the semester!

Good Luck!

Ms. Westgerdes

## 5. Test Information:

A unit test for each of the four units will be assigned. Scores of the highest two of the first three tests will be used when calculating the final grade. The lowest score of the first three tests will be dropped. The final exam is the Unit Four test and is NOT comprehensive. The material in each of the four units builds upon the prior units. Therefore, a comprehensive understanding of all materials presented in the course is the student's responsibility.

Each test is composed of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each; totaling 100 points... to get the points for your course grade calculation, divide your test score by 100 and multiple it by 20. For example: supposed you got 90 out of

100 points...this will translate to  $90/100$  multiplied by 20

Step 1  $90/100 = 0.9$

Step 2  $0.9 \times 20 = 18$

**You can simply multiply your score by 0.2**

With this simple calculation, you should be able to figure out how you are doing regarding your potential letter grade for the course. Please, don't ask the TA or me to do this for you. The honor system is used during testing. Students may use written resources i.e., textbook, class notes or other printed materials. Consultation with another PERSON, either verbally or in writing is forbidden.

No requests to "make-up" an examination will be entertained.



## 6. Writing Assignment Instructions report:

### Generic Instructions:

All assignments must be dropped in the Assignment Box in Blackboard Learning no later than 4:00 p.m. on their due dates. Students are encouraged to submit assignments anytime prior to the due date. Only assignments submitted through the Assignment Box will be graded.

The report submission must be made in the form of an electronic file. One file should be dropped into the Assignment Box. Should more than one file appear in the Assignment Box, the first file will be opened and graded.

The file name for the report will include the student's last name followed by the name of the report. The file will be in the pdf format. Example: NameLearned.pdf.

The following information must appear in the header of each report, with the correct page number appearing on subsequent pages. The student's last name must be substituted for "Name" in the preceding and subsequent examples.

**GEOL G100-05I, Prof Isiorho, semester, .... Report Name 1**

Reports are to be written in a formal tone, using 12 point Times New Roman font, and are double-spaced. Standard one inch margins and one space after sentence ending punctuation should be used.

A minimum of three references per report are required. The "References Cited" section of a paper appears on a dedicated page, and is written using APA formatting. No Wikipedia citations will be accepted as a reference.

**No requests to "make-up" a report will be entertained.**

### Specific Instructions:

Standard report formatting of an introductory paragraph, a body paragraph, and a concluding paragraph is expected.

Report length is one page MAXIMUM. Do not use a Title Page. Be brief and concise.

Statements made within the body of the report that are a result of an author's work product, require appropriate citation (Author, year) before the sentence ending punctuation.

Additional instructions are listed in the UNITS (I, II, III, or IV).

## 7. Ten (10) Photograph Project Instructions:

### Generic Instructions:

The project must be dropped in the Assignment Box in Blackboard Learning no later than 4:00 p.m. on its due date. Students are encouraged to submit this assignment anytime prior to the due date. The assignment must be submitted through the Assignment Box in order to be graded. A project submission must be made in the form of an electronic file.

Should more than one file appear in the Assignment Box, the first file will be opened and graded. The file name for the project will include the student's last name followed by the name of the project. The file will be in the .pdf format. Example: Name10PhotographProject.pdf. The following information must appear in the header of each page, with the correct page number appearing on subsequent pages. The student's last name must be substituted for "Name" in the preceding and subsequent examples.

### *GEOL G100-04I, Prof Isiorho, semester, 10 Photograph Project Name 1*

Captions are to be written in a formal tone, using 12 point Times New Roman font, and should be double spaced. Standard one inch margins and one space after sentence ending punctuation should be used.

A minimum of three references per report are required. The "References Cited" section of a paper appears on a dedicated page, and is written using APA formatting. No Wikipedia citations will be accepted as a reference.

**No requests to "make-up" a report will be entertained.**

### Specific Instructions:

Select ten photographs and provide a three/four-sentence description for each picture. The photographs should be numbered from one to ten. The caption for the photograph for example could be flood, landslide, rocks, soil, etc. will explain why or how the subject of the photo is pertinent to this course.

All photos must be in the .jpg or .jif or pdf format. Source credit must be given beneath the photo as well as the "References Cited" section of the paper. All pictures, including descriptions, must be in one file...should be in pdf format. No drawings, cartoons, or illustrations may be used. Additional instructions are listed in UNIT II.

## **8. Personal Water Experience Report:**

### **Generic Instructions:**

The project must be dropped in the Assignment Box in Blackboard learn no later than 4:00 p.m. on its due date. Students are encouraged to submit assignments anytime prior to the due date. Only assignments submitted through the Assignment Box will be graded.

The project submission must be made in the form of an electronic file. One file should be dropped into the Assignment Box. Should more than one file appear in the Assignment Box, the first file will be opened and graded. The file name for the report will include the student's last name followed by the name of the report. The file will be in the pdf format.

Example:NamePersonalExperience.pdf.

The following information must appear in the header of each page, with the correct page number appearing on subsequent pages. The student's last name must be substituted for "Name" in the preceding and subsequent examples.

**GEOL G100-05I Prof Isiorho, semester, Personal Experience                      Name 1**

Reports are to be written in a formal tone, using 12 point Times New Roman font, and should be double spaced. Standard one inch margins and one space after sentence ending punctuation should be used.

No requests to "make-up" a report will be entertained.

### **Specific Instructions:**

The use of pronouns, such as "I," are acceptable in this report. An informal writing style is not acceptable. References are not necessary, as the information contained within the report are from the students own experience.

Additional instructions are listed in UNIT IV.

## **9. Discussion Board Posting Assignment:**

All students must participate in the online discussion in Blackboard learn.

The discussion board should be used to post questions, answers, and other items of interest to the class for discussion.

The professor may initiate a topic to which students may respond.

Keep the discussion threads pure by posting discussion for a topic on that topic's thread.

Avoid repeating what another student has posted, as trivial postings will not be counted toward this assignment.

A minimum of two postings per week is required. Only one posting per day will be counted when figuring the two posting per week minimum requirement.

A week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. Postings made between August 20 and November 25 (14 weeks...) will count toward the final grade. Postings can be made after this time frame, and are encouraged, but will receive NO credit.

1.6 point will be earned for an introductory paragraph WITH an attached photograph of the student. The remaining 8.4 points will be distributed amongst the 28 required postings. This assignment is graded by the Teaching Assistant.

## 10. UNIT I

*PreQuiz Aug 20-22*

*Practise Test Aug20 –Sept7, 2012...practise test grade will not be applied to your course grade*

**Assignment:** *Learned Report (what you hope to learn in the course) August 24, 2012 (Bonus) due by 9:00 p.m.*

**Note the chapter titles may not correspond to the chapter titles in your textbook**

Learned report...write 3 to 5-sentence on what you hope to achieve and learn in and from this course. Save your report as a pdf file. This also serves to see you can submit report in pdf format...1% (bonus) Due Aug 24 by 9:00 pm.

A first look at planet earth....

Chapter 1

Minerals (\*) very important chapter

Chapter 2

Igneous Rocks and processes

Chapter 3

Volcanism and volcanism

Chapter 4

Learn about volcanoes of the world [VOLCANOES](#)

[Stomboli Online: Volcanoes of the world](#)

Weathering and the breakdown of rocks

Chapter 5

[Powerpoint Slide review](#)

[Classnotes for Unit 1](#)

**The [End](#) of the Earth? ABC News Jan. 22, 2003**

[Volcanic Ash](#) over Kodiak Island in Alaska

Space, Time, and Big ideas [videos](#) 5 short videos

What on [earth made](#) this?

***Exam I September 10-12, 2012***

**(available from 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.)**

**Exam will be seventy (70) minutes long.**

## 11. UNIT II

**Note the chapter titles may not correspond exactly to the chapter titles in your textbook**

Sedimentary processes, environments and sedimentary Rocks Chapter 6

Sed. rock type and depositional environments

Metamorphism and Metamorphic Rocks Chapter 7

**Assignment:** Ten **PICTURES (photos)** (no drawings/illustrations/cartoons) related to the course with sources due through Blackboard assignment dropbox by 9:00 p.m **September 14, 2012** (**will prefer pictures taken by you**). This is worth 5% of your course grade. Have three to four-sentence description for each photograph, and also provide the source(s) (using APA format if you are not using your own personal pictures) of your photographs.

3-D pictures of National Parks.... DO NOT GET YOUR PICTURES FROM THIS WEBSITE.

Example of a picture report: [Sample 10-Picture report](#)

**Assignment:** Check out this site ([Geogarden Tour](#)) and write a one-page double space typed report (5% of course grade) **on any two specific rocks (not rock groups) from the geogarden...** Your report should include 1) specific rock name, 2) mineral composition, 3) why you chose the rocks, and 4) and uses... (**include minimum of three references, using APA format**) due September 28, 2012 by 4:00 p.m.

Telling Time Geologically Chapter 8

Age of Earth links [Geologic Time Scale](#)

Link to a [geologic time scale class note by Dr. John C. Butler](#)

Shores and Coastal Processes (My Hawaii Video [One](#)) Chapter 19

Will not be in test II

Links to slides of [coastal](#) features.....

### **Classnotes for Unit 2**

**Exam: October 10-12, 2012** (available from from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.) Exam will be seventy (70) minutes long.

## 12. UNIT III

**Note the chapter titles may not correspond exactly to the chapter titles in your textbook**

Geologic Structure (Folds, Faults, and Fabrics) Chapter 9

Earthquakes Chapter 10

**Assignment 3:** ([Virtual EQ](#)) Check out this site and complete the assignment and turn in your **certificate of completion** (**visit [Virtual EQ](#) site and do the assignment and at the end you will be awarded a certificate ...your name must be on the certificate (5% of course grade).** **SAVE THE CERTIFICATE AS A SEPARATE FILE FIRST BEFORE ATTACHING IT TO YOUR ASSIGNMENT BOX IN BLACKBOARD (Note: Right click on the certificate to save it as JIF, JPEG, BMP or PDF and drop it in the assignment dropbox it as an attachment).**

**Due October 26, 2012 by 9:00 p.m.**

The Earth's Interior Chapter 11

Plate Tectonics Chapter 12

[Plate Tectonics](#)     [Plate tectonics animations](#)

Mass Wasting Chapter 14

Animations from Pearson/Prentice Hall ... [http://www.phschool.com/atschool/phsciexp/active\\_art/mass\\_movement/index.html](http://www.phschool.com/atschool/phsciexp/active_art/mass_movement/index.html)

### **Classnotes for Unit 3**

Plate tectonics animations

**Exam III: November 7-9, 2012 (available from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) Exam will be seventy (70) minutes long.**

### 13. UNIT IV

*Note the chapter titles may not correspond exactly to the chapter titles in your textbook*

[Streams](#) / Rivers and Floods

Chapter 15

[Hurricane Floyd](#)    [New Orleans Floods](#) (Aerial photos)    [Great Britain Flood](#)  
[Nile Flood](#)    [NAmerica drought](#)    [Drought](#)  
River meander [video](#) (by Prof. Isiorho)... description by Prof. Farlow

Groundwater

Chapter 16

Lake Chad Drought    USGS [Water](#) Science for Schools

Fun [Groundwater video](#) ... I think

USGS [Groundwater](#) site

**Assignment:** Start early on this assignment as it may take you a couple hours. **Do the river DISCHARGE & FLOOD assignments and turn in your certificates (your name must be on the certificates...right click on the certificates to save them as jif, jpeg, bmp or PDF, and download them before putting them in Blackboard assignment drop box of completion (10%). Note...you should have two certificates (Discharge & Flood, worth 5% each) due November 19, 2012 by 9:00 p.m.**

Glaciers and Glaciation

Chapter 17

Deserts and Wind Action (Sahara)

Chapter 18

[Classnotes for Unit 4](#)

[USGS Surface runoff](#)

[Water UMAC](#)

**Assignment:** Water experience report....write a one page double space report on any water related experience you had within the past ten years....no need to give references. Due November 26, 2012 by 9:00 pm.

**Assignment:** Post Learn Report: ....write a half page double space report on what you achieved in this course. Relate it to what you wrote at the beginning of the semester (in the learned report). Did you achieve your aim? Due November 30 by 9:00 pm. 1% (bonus)

***Post Quiz 6:00 a.m. December 3-5, 2012 to 9:00 p.m.***

**Exam IV 6:00 am through 9:00 pm Dec 10-12, 2012**

**Exam will be seventy (70) minutes long.**



**14. Class Notes:**     [Class Notes](#)

**15. Power points:**

[Student generated Powerpoint Slides](#) see the individual units for the ppt slides

**16. Website links:**

Website Links.... *for example*.... [Class Notes \(Outlines\)](#)

**17. Grading Rubric:**       [Grading](#) Rubric

*New materials may be added here.*

*Unconformity [animation](#) ... enjoy :)*

*An [Interview with God](#) ... good geologic pictures*

**Plan ahead and manage your time well. You may need a minimum of two hours per week for this course. The Earthquake, Discharge & Flood certificates assignments may take hours to complete!**

[Isiorho's Homepage](#)

[Geoscience page](#)

[E mail: Isiorho](#) (Do not use this for class assignment)

[IPFW Homepage](#)

Updated June 18, 2012