

Spring, 2015

Instructor: Andrew Hunt, PhD

Office Number: Room 245 Geosciences Building

Office Telephone Number: 817-272-0437

Email Address: hunt@uta.edu

Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/dr-andrew-hunt>

Office Hours: Tuesday 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Section Information: GEOL 1302-001 (Texas Common Course Number GEOL 1303)

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Geosciences Building (GS), Room 100
Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Description of Course Content: Fundamentals of Geology using a “systems approach.” Students will learn geological concepts, principles, and related scientific terms. Students will learn about active geologic processes and the driving force of plate tectonics. Students will be exposed to the principles behind the formation of different rock types, and the nature of the earth’s interior.

Student Learning Outcomes: On completion of the course it is expected that: (I) The students will be able to describe the structure of the earth. (II) The students will be able to identify the characteristics of different rock types, how they are formed, and what minerals they are composed of. (III) The students will be able to explain plate tectonics and how associated processes lead to the cycling of rock. (IV) The students will be able to understand the concept of the geosphere as a set of distinct systems. (V) The students should be able to synthesize what they learn in the lectures and apply this knowledge to the problems they will be presented with in the Laboratory section of the course.

Required Textbook: Understanding Earth, J. Grotzinger & T Jordan, 7e W.H. Freeman and Company, NY, The print version or the Launchpad version is acceptable, BUT the course will primarily use Launchpad. To register for the course go to:
<http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/understandingearth7e/1408080>

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations: There will be 5 exams during the course (as marked on the syllabus), the results from the four exams with the highest grades will be used to calculate the student’s final grade. There will be additional extra credit exercises online through Launchpad. The results from the class exams will make up 75% of the final grade (25% will be determined from effort in the Labs)

Attendance: As the instructor of this section I allow students to attend class at their own discretion. However, I have established following attendance policy: attendance will be taken and if a student attends all lectures they will be eligible for a half letter grade extra credit.

Other Requirements: Lab attendance is expected. Please remember 25% of the final grade comes from your efforts in the lab class.

Grading: A final letter grade will be assigned to each student in the following manner based on the cumulative percentage score from the class exams plus the score from the Lab exercises. A Grade => 90%, B Grade 80-89%, C Grade 70-79%, D Grade 60-69%, F grade <60%. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course (which is highly condensed) should expect to spend at least an additional twelve hours per week of their own time in course related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, and preparing for lab.

Make-up Exams: There will be NO make-up exams unless the need is critical.

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog. See: http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10;

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: [Suggested language] The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Lab Safety Training: Students registered for this course must complete all required lab safety training prior to entering the lab and undertaking any activities. Once completed, Lab Safety Training is valid for the remainder of the same academic year (i.e., through the following August) and must be completed anew in subsequent years. There are no exceptions to this University policy. Failure to complete the required training will preclude participation in any lab activities, including those for which a grade is assigned.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. There are three immediate exits. One is located in the lecture hall itself. The other two are immediately to the left and right of the lecture hall main entrance. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

START STRONG Freshman Tutoring Program: University Tutorial and Supplemental Instruction (UTSI)/University College

All first time freshmen can receive six FREE hours of tutoring for this course and other selected subjects for this semester.

Students must sign up and complete their first hour of tutoring by February 27th.

To sign up, visit UTSI in 205 Ransom Hall/University College.

Upon completion of your first tutoring appointment, you will receive five hours of additional free tutoring.

Flexible tutoring hours are available from 7:00am – 9:00pm, seven days a week in the Central Library.

All tutors receive extensive training. Find out more at www.uta.edu/startstrong

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

Course Schedule. As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Andrew Hunt, PhD.”

DAY	DATE	Week	SESSION	TOPIC	BOOK CHAPTER
Tuesday	1/20/15	1	1	Earth System I	1
Thursday	1/22/15		2	Earth System II	1
Tuesday	1/27/15	2	3	Plate Tectonics I	2
Thursday	1/29/15		4	Plate Tectonics II	2
Tuesday	2/03/15	3	5	Plate Tectonics III	2
Thursday	2/05/15		6	(EXAM 1 Covering Sessions 1-5)	
Tuesday	2/10/15	4	7	Igneous Rocks I	4
Thursday	2/12/15		8	Igneous Rocks II	4
Tuesday	2/17/15	5	9	Sedimentary Rocks I	5
Thursday	2/19/15		10	Sedimentary Rocks II	5
Tuesday	2/24/15	6	11	Metamorphic Rocks I	6
Thursday	2/26/15		12	Metamorphic Rocks II	6
Tuesday	3/03/15	7	13	(EXAM 2 Covering Sessions 7-12)	
Thursday	3/05/15		14	History of the Continents	10
Tuesday	3/10/15	8	15	Spring Vacation	
Thursday	3/12/15		16	Spring Vacation	
Tuesday	3/17/15	9	17	Clocks in Rocks I - Relative Age	8
Thursday	3/19/15		18	Clocks in Rocks II – Absolute Age	8
Tuesday	3/24/15	10	19	Earth's Interior	14
Thursday	3/26/15		20	Volcanoes	12
Tuesday	3/31/15	11	21	(EXAM 3 Covering lectures 14, 17-20)	
Thursday	4/02/15		22	Earthquakes	13
Tuesday	4/07/15	12	23	The Climate System	15
Thursday	4/09/15		24	The Hydrologic Cycle	17
Tuesday	4/14/15	13	25	Stream Transport	18
Thursday	4/16/15		26	Coastlines and Ocean Basins	20
Tuesday	4/21/15	14	27	(EXAM 4 Covering Lectures 22-26)	
Thursday	4/23/15		28	Winds and Deserts I	19
Tuesday	4/28/15	15	28	Winds and Deserts II	19
Thursday	4/30/15		30	Glaciers I	20
Tuesday	5/05/15	16	31	Glaciers II	22
Thursday	5/07/15		32	Human Impact on Earth's Environment	23
TBD	TBD	17		FINALS WEEK starts May 12th (Final exam Covering lectures 28-32)*	

**Actual timing in finals week may change*