Midland College  
Syllabus  
2008-09  
GEOL 1401 Lab  
Earth Science Lab  
4 Semester Credit Hours  
(3 Lecture/3 Lab)

Course Description: 
Earth Science lab is designed to complement and expand on the concepts which have been or will be propounded in the lecture portion of the course. Whenever possible the lab activities will implement a “hands on” approach to Earth’s products and processes.

Text, References, and Supplies: 

References: The instructor will provide suggestions concerning access to reference material.

Supplies Required: The student MUST provide pencils. The use of ink pens will not be permitted. The instructor will provide advanced notice to students concerning other supplies needed for forthcoming lab sessions.

Course Goals/Objectives: 
The primary goal of the lab is to engender a sense of appreciation in students for the dynamic interrelationships among the earth’s major systems, the effects of these systems on our planet, the physical processes by which the planet evolves, and the impact of these processes on humans. Every effort will be made to encourage students to acquire an active and enthusiastic interest in the earth sciences rather than by the imposition of knowledge by rote.

Student Contributions, and Class Policies:
1. Students will be expected to turn off electronic devices such as: cell phones and MP3 players. Students may use laptops for note taking.
2. Students will be expected to take part in active class discussions and participate in special functions when announced.
3. Attendance is required at all lab sessions and credit deductions will be made for absences unless excuses for attending scholastic related activities are provided.
4. Students will be responsible for all assignments covered in the lab. Lab exercises are due at the end of the lab, unless otherwise specified. If a student becomes absent or tardy, he or she must ask the instructor about missed activities and making-up the exercise(s). Deductions will be made for any work that is late, including makeup of lab practicals, unless approval is granted by the instructor. (To be discussed under Assignment of Lab Grades)
5. Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject.
Grading Scheme: The final grade for Geology 1401 will be determined on the basis of: 75% from the lecture portion of the course and 25% from the laboratory portion. A proposed distribution of the lab grade system is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment of Lab Grades</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lab Practical #1</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Practical #2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Lab Practical (Not comprehensive)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Exercises</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster Presentation</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
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A deduction of 25 points will be assessed for each week day late. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor to arrange to complete and/or turn-in late exercises and/or practicals. Practicals MUST BE made-up within one week of scheduled exam date.

Extra Credit: 10 points extra credit (added to a Lab Practical) may be earned by 100% Attendance.

Intellectual Competencies:

1. Reading - Understanding the material incorporated in the text used in this course will require the student to analyze and interpret various geological concepts.

2. Listening - The primary teaching methods used in this course are discussion and lecture. Understanding the oral presentation of material will require the student to analyze and interpret various geological concepts.

3. Critical Thinking - Critical thinking, as exemplified by problem solving, is inherent in the study of any scientific discipline. Scientific problems will be considered, discussed, and analyzed in this course.

ADA Statement: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible. These conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations.

Exemplary Objectives for Natural Sciences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>X X X GEOL 1401</td>
<td>Earth Science</td>
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Competencies:

1. To understand and apply method and appropriate technology to the study of the natural sciences.
2. To recognize scientific and quantitative methods and the differences between these approaches and the other methods of inquiry and to communicate findings, analyses, and interpretation both orally and in writing.
3. To identify and recognize the differences among competing scientific theories.

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Karen Waggoner
Office: AHSB 117B
Phone: 432-685-5580
E-mail: kwaggoner@midland.edu
Office Hours: M 9:00-11:00 am & 4:30-5:30 pm, W 9:00-11:00 am, TR 2:30-3:30 pm, F 7:00-8:00 am or by appointment

Division Dean: Dr. Margaret Wade, 125 SF, 685-4615
Division Secretary: Ms. Norma Duran, 124 SF, 685-4612
Ms. Brenda Smith, 124 SF, 685-6413