Midland College Syllabus
2018 - 2019
GEOL 1405 L
Environmental Science Lab
4 Semester Credit Hours
(3 Lecture/3 Lab)
Core Curriculum Course

Instructor Information:
Instructor: Joan Gawloski  Office: AHSF 121
Phone: 685-4630  Email:jgawloski@midland.edu
Office Hours: M-F 7:30-8:00, M 9:00-12:30, W 9:00-12:00, F 9:00-10:00

Notice: Students MUST actively participate by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not actively participate in an academically-related activity may be reported as never attended and dropped from the course

Course Description:
This course is a general education course that investigates the relationship between geologic processes and human environment. The earth as a habitat is important for all organisms including human. The earth processes provide the basic physical environment for human life and society. Almost all of geology, the study of earth, might in one sense be regarded as environmental geology. However, in a narrow sense, the term environmental geology is usually related to human activities. It is the focus of this course, which includes topics such as geologic resources (metals, rocks, fossil fuels, minerals, and water), hazardous geologic processes (floods, landslides, volcanoes and earthquakes), urban and regional land use planning, and environmental challenges (waste disposal, air/groundwater pollutions, and environmental policy). Prerequisite: TSI complete in Reading.

Core Objectives:
This course fulfills four hours of the Life and Physical Science requirement in the Midland College Core Curriculum. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. The Core Curriculum is available in the Midland College Catalog. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Inclusion Critical Thinking Skills: Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills through course assignments, instructor created and proctored regular and final exams, laboratory exercises and practical exams.
Communication Skills: Students will demonstrate communication skills through in-class questions, instructor mediated in-class/lab discussions, laboratory exercises reports, and essay questions in exams.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills: Students will demonstrate empirical and quantitative skills by recognizing and describing physical properties in order to identify minerals and rocks, and testing water quality through laboratory exercises.

Teamwork: Students will demonstrate teamwork by group discussions during laboratory exercises.

Text, References and Supplies:
ISBN: 978-0073532554
Laboratory Textbook: All materials will be selected and provided as handouts by the instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply the scientific method to environmental investigation.

2. Measure and observe aspects of the environment (e.g., air, water, soil) through sampling and sample analysis.

3. Develop an assessment plan for an environmental case study.

4. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data.

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:
Students will be expected to comply with the policies outlined in the Midland College student handbook.
Instructor policies concerning attendance and academic behavior are consistent with the policies in the student handbook (See Instructor Handout). Regular attendance is required to do well in this class.

Attendance Policy:
It is the responsibility of the students to know the policies and procedures associated with absences. These policies are set by instructors. Excused absences may include, but are not limited to, illness, severe weather, and death in the family. Instructors will determine whether or not an absence is excused. Please visit the Midland College Catalog.
Withdrawal Policy:
Students who have enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher education as a
first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later are permitted to drop no more than six
courses during the entire undergraduate career. This limit includes all transfer
work taken at a Texas institution of higher education and to second baccalaureate
degrees. This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 (Texas
Education Code 51.907). Any course that a student drops after Census Day is
counted toward the six-course limit if “(1) the student was able to drop the course
without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student’s
transcript indicates or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and
(3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the
institution.” Please visit the Midland College Catalog.

Scholastic Dishonesty:
Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in
any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject. Please visit the
Midland College Catalog.

Evaluation of Students:
The final grade will be determined on the basis of: 75% from the lecture portion of
the course and 25% from the laboratory portion. The proposed distribution of the
course grade system is shown below.
- Lab Exercises 50%
- Lab Practicals and presentations 50%

Students will be evaluated based on the results of all coursework given throughout
the semester. Your lecture instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to
the tentative dates and content of the course. Students are expected to complete
all assignments and exams. Your instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to make-up procedures
for missed exams and any exemption procedures if they apply (See Instructor
Handout).

Course Schedule:
This class meets for 3 lecture hours per week and 3 lab hours per week. For a
tentative schedule of the class meetings and material to be covered during those
meetings, please refer to the schedule distributed to each student on the first class
meeting (See Instructor Handout).

ADA Statement:
Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student
Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must place documentation
on file with the Counselor/Disability Specialist. Students with disabilities should
notify Midland College prior to the beginning of each semester. Student Services
will provide each student with a letter outlining any reasonable accommodations.
The student must present the letter to the instructor at the beginning of the
semester.
Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

**Tana Baker, Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer, 3600 N. Garfield, SSC 242, Midland, TX 79705, (432) 685-4781, tbaker@midland.edu; Natasha Morgan, Director Human Resources/Payroll, 3600 N. Garfield, PAD 104, Midland, TX 79705, (432) 685-4534, nmorgan@midland.edu.** For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit [http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm](http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm) or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

**Spanish**

Midland College no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, discapacidad, o edad en sus programas o actividades. Las siguientes personas han sido designadas para responder a cualquier pregunta o duda sobre estas políticas no discriminatorias: **Tana Baker, Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer, 3600 N. Garfield, SSC 242, Midland, TX 79705, (432) 685-4781, tbaker@midland.edu; Natasha Morgan, Director Human Resources/Payroll, 3600 N. Garfield, PAD 104, Midland, TX 79705, (432) 685-4534, nmorgan@midland.edu.** Para más información sobre estas políticas no discriminatorias, visite [http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm](http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm) o llame al 1 (800) 421-3481.

**Math/Science Division Information:**

- **Division Dean:** Dr. Margaret Wade 125 AHSF 432-685-4615
- **Dept. Chair:** Mr. Antony Giles 117 AHSF 432-685-5580
- **Division Secretary:** Carol Pritchard 124 AHSF 432-685-6413
- **Division Clerk:** Sarah Anderson 124 AHSF 432-685-4561

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