I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Lecture Instructor

Name: Dr. Rachel Teasdale  
Office: Physical Sciences 204
Phone: 898-5547  
E-mail: rteasdale@csuchico.edu
Office Hours: Mon 3-4, Tues 9:30-10:30, Thurs 10-11, & by appointment

Class Meetings

Lecture: M/W 2:00–2:50 p.m. Ayers 120
Labs: As scheduled online, please attend your scheduled lab

Required Materials

• Textbook: Exploring of Geology (1st edition), by Reynolds, Johnson, Kelly, Morin, & Carter
• Lab packet: Buy this packet from the Association of Geological & Environmental Students (AGES) club during the first week of classes. You will need to bring this to your lab section every week.

II. PHILOSOPHY AND COURSE STRUCTURE

This class is designed to be as interactive as possible (given the constraints of a LARGE lecture hall). The more active your brain is, the more you will learn and remember (and the more fun it is). In this class, you will be listening to lectures, taking notes, and participating in activities, all of which (hopefully) help you make connections between class material and your own experiences.

Access to Multi-Media Materials Shown in Class: Shortly after each lecture, pertinent figures (those not in your textbook) will be posted on the course WebCT site. Figures will be posted as printable pdf files (you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader—available on the web for free—to read these files on your computer). If you don’t have a computer, there are student computer labs all over campus for your use, free of charge.

WebCT and how to get to it: Log onto your Portal account from the CSU Chico web site (www.csuchico.edu) Select “My Courses” in the top middle part of the page then select “GEOS 101, General Geology” for updates and information!

Classroom Etiquette: In class activities & questions are in hope that you will work with your neighbors, to interact with each other and the course material. Leaving class during lecture prevents you and your classmates from learning. If you have some kind of a medical emergency, or an important appointment that you cannot change, by all means, leave early, but try to be discrete. Polls of previous students show a direct correlation between good grades and good attendance (hint hint!).

III. ASSESSMENT

Point Distribution (keep track of your earned points so you know exactly where you stand in class)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Item</th>
<th>% Possible</th>
<th>% Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 2</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 3</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labs + Lab Exams</td>
<td>30% total</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Points Possible</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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III. ASSESSMENT (cont’d)

Percentages are translated to letter grades as stated below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>F</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>A</th>
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Some Details:

1. **Participation**: Each day there will be questions or activities for you to work on with your groups (pods) and/or questions randomly distributed throughout the lecture for you to answer. You will record your responses to the questions on paper provided in class. There are NO make-ups for missed participation, but I will drop your two lowest scores.

2. **Reading Quizzes**: Quizzes give you “credit” for having done the reading. This is important so that in class we can do more than just regurgitate textbook information. Plan on reading the assigned pages and completing the quizzes BEFORE each class- quizzes become “unavailable” 10 minutes before class starts.

3. **Lecture Exams**: Each lecture exam consists of 40-50 multiple-choice questions, and a few questions that will ask you to provide short answers, short calculations, or label important diagrams. Notice that the exam values increase, so as you become more comfortable with the style of exams and the type of material, you can get more credit for doing well! Also notice that exams occur on two days. The first day of exams are taken independently, each multiple choice question is worth 3 points. On the second day of each exam, the multiple choice questions will be redistributed so multiple choice questions can be answered by students in small groups for additional 1 point each. Short answer questions will be completed during the first day of the exam only. Final exam scores will then be determined as follows:

   Individual multiple choice questions: 3 points possible
   Group multiple choice questions: 1 point possible
   Individual short answer questions: as indicated on the exam (usually 10-20% of the exam)

Anti-group "examers": If you prefer to not participate in the group exam (or if you are absent on the 2nd exam day), your individual exam questions will be worth 4 points each. Students typically do much better in their groups (pods) so I encourage you to consider taking the group exam.

**Missed Exams**: A comprehensive exam will be given at 4pm; Friday May 15 for students who have a University approved excused absence for the date of an “individual” exam. Students with excused absences must discuss their absence with me within one week of the missed exam. The date of the comprehensive makeup exam is subject to change (but will be announced) and is non-negotiable.

4. **Labs**: Weekly Lab Material: Lab attendance is required. Your weekly lab grade will be based on a combination of attendance, quality of work, quiz scores, and lab exams.

Lab Exams: The lab exams are hands-on practical exams that apply knowledge you gained in the lab exercises. The make-up policy is the only for university-defined excused absences and makeup arrangements are at the discretion of the lab instructor. You are responsible for contacting the instructor to make arrangements for missed lab exams within one week of the exam.
**Grade Updates:** I will post all exam scores on WebCT, you know what your participation grade is in class from your attendance, your reading quiz scores in WebCT, and your lab scores will be returned to you each week. This way, you will be able to keep track of your grade in this course as we go along.

**Academic Integrity:** You are responsible for being familiar with the University policies on academic integrity, they are found at: [http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/EMs/EM04/em04_36.htm](http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/EMs/EM04/em04_36.htm). Any violation of this policy will be vigorously pursued and presented to the University Office of Student Judicial Affairs.

**V. COMMUNICATION**

**Office Hours:** I love to talk to students about geology. Please stop by and see me if you would like to learn more about topics covered in class, or if you need help learning the material, want advice on how to study for exams, or have general questions about geology or (especially) if you want information about a career in geology. Note: I do **not** use the WebCT e-mail so please contact me with the email address at the top of the syllabus- rteasdale@csuchico.edu.

****TIPS TO DOING WELL IN THIS CLASS**

1. **KNOW** that I want you to succeed. I have announced all exams well in advance and the whole class is laid out for you so that you can focus on learning. If you have questions ask me!!

2. **ATTEND** class. Questions discussed in class will appear on the exams. So if you attend class you are guaranteed to see a lot of questions that will show up on the tests!

3. **READ** the reading assignments before class and take all the reading quizzes! By doing so, you will be familiar with the terms and ready for the explanations and additional details that we’ll deal with in class, plus you’ll have seen even more of the test questions!

4. **SCHEDULE** time to do all of these. If it’s in your normal routine, you’ll have a better chance of actually reading, meeting, and studying for the class.

Feedback from students who earned A’s in this course indicates that studying regularly helped them succeed. They attended class, kept up on the readings, and met with instructors when questions came up. Seems pretty straightforward, right?!