Fall 2021

GS 106: Principles of Earth Science Syllabus

4 Credits

M 8:30 AM – 10:50 PM, Zoom online

CRN 22613

Instructor name: Katharine Solada
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Office hours: Email me to set up Zoom appointments for your convenience

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COVID-19 Note:

- If you have any problems or questions, please ask or let me know. I am extremely flexible and willing to help you in any way I can. **I want ALL students to succeed in this course!**
- The college has an amazing FAQ page about how the term will work (and how to access basic needs resources, such as food and rent if you need them).
- If you do not have access to a computer, call the LBCC library at 541-917-4630. If you do not have internet access there are lots of options.
- The course will be conducted through Zoom and Moodle, but there will be options to study and work together with myself and other students online.
- All of my course materials will be posted on Moodle, and you will turn in assignments through Moodle, if you have any problems email me.

Course Description

Introduces non-science majors to the Earth Sciences. We will be exploring a vast array of topics, issues, and processes that describe how our planet formed and continues to evolve. This course includes a laboratory component to provide a better understanding of the topic we cover in lecture. No previous science background required, just a willingness to learn!

Course Materials

Required:

- The Textbook: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/earthscience/ and the labs are free and located on the course Moodle shell.
- Zoom account through LBCC: Register at https://linnbenton.zoom.us/ using your LBCC email and password.
- Access to Moodle: This is our online class hub: you will check grades, review syllabus and powerpoints, carry on discussions with your instructor and classmates, take quizzes and submit assignments.
- Access to Google Suite: (docs, slides, and sheets—available with LBCC email)

Recommended:

- Moodle app for your phone.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and classify igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks.
2. Describe the formation of landforms in the context of plate tectonic theory.
3. Describe the components and processes of the hydrologic system.
4. Describe the components and processes of the atmospheric system, including weather and climate.
5. Describe objects that make up the solar system and universe and explain the effects of the relative positions of the earth, sun, and moon.

Grading

Grades will be posted on Moodle. Coursework will be graded as follows:

Exam 1 & 2	20 %
Labs (lowest dropped)	30 %
Homework (lowest dropped)	20 %
Final Exam	20 %
In-class participation/activities	10 %
Total	100%

Final letter grades will be assigned as follows (I do not round grades up):

A	= 90 - 100 %
B	= 80 – 89.9 %
C	= 70 – 70.9 %
D	= 60 – 69.9 %
F	= Below 59.9 %

Class Organization:

The class will be organized into 10 modules. Each module is highly structured to provide opportunity to actively think and practice the topics each week. Each week's module will open Monday morning and close Sunday (11:59 pm). Expect to take up to 10 hours a week to be successful in this class. There will be 3 exams, with weekly quizzes and assignments that will be completed in class or on Moodle. Quizzes and worksheets will cover recent readings and lectures. Please note that modules are only available one week at a time. Each module consists of short videos, quizzes, and a lab.

Exams 1 & 2

Exam 1 covers weeks 1-3. Exam 2 covers weeks 4-6.

Final Exam
This exam is comprehensive and covers the entire 10-week course. Early finals can only be taken during finals week.

Incomplete Grades
(IN) will only be considered if a student has talked to me in advance, and a signed agreement between the student and myself is completed. IN grade are assigned only if the student has a good reason for making the request, has only the minority of coursework to complete, and has scored a C or better on work that has been submitted.

Due Dates

Modules
Every week there is a module – they will only be open for that week. Modules open Monday morning and close the following Sunday (11:59 pm).

Labs
Each week there will be a lab posted on Moodle. Labs are due the following Sunday (11:59 pm), although you will most likely finish in class. Late lab reports are subject to a 15% grade reduction per day past due. After 3 days, a maximum of 50% deduction will be taken, this means labs can be turned in at any point during the term with a maximum of 50% grade reduction. Your lowest lab score will be dropped. **If you miss 3 or more labs you will fail the course.**

Quizzes
There will be 10 Moodle quizzes. You will complete these assignments on Moodle. These are always due on Sunday (11:59 pm). Late work cannot be accepted, but your lowest quiz score will be dropped. If you believe Moodle miscalculated your grade, please contact me and I will review your assignment.

Exams
Tests will be online, you are allowed to use any resource. The exam is timed – so if you try to look up every answer you will run out of time, in other words, STUDY. Once tests are returned to the class they cannot be made up, so contact me as soon as possible with any conflicts. Although the final exam can only be taken during finals week.

Changes to the Syllabus

I may have to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement or through LBCC e-mail.

Behavior and Expectations

You are held accountable to the Student Code of Conduct, which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and

general conduct. Students are most successful when they ask questions, actively participate in class, and complete assignments. The more effort that you as the student puts in the more that you will get out of this class. I hope you can leave here with the knowledge and critical thinking skills to look at the world around you a bit differently. As an instructor I am here to support you so please contact me or see me study sessions with any questions/concerns you may have.

Statement of Respect
Your instructor will make every attempt to create an environment free of distraction and one open to free discourse. The college environment is one of exploring ideas, but also in a context of mutual respect for your peers and instructors. If a pattern of disrespect develops the instructor reserves the right to discuss appropriate behavioral expectations with individuals who may not fully understand this responsibility. At no time will a hostile or condescending discussion be permitted.

Attendance
Coming to class is essential, please prearrange any absences you may have with me – will work with you. Missing class will affect your participation grade and overall grade. You are allowed to miss one unexcused class, after that your overall grade will be reduced by 10% for each unexcused class missed. We only meet once a week to go through the labs, this is a lab course so if you keep missing class you will fail the course.

Concerning cheating and plagiarism
I encourage group work and researching your answers; however, **your answers must be expressed in your own words, numbers, etc.** If I catch you copying or cheating on an assignment you will receive a zero on that assignment and a final warning. If you are caught a second time you will fail the course and possible recommendation to LBCC administration for further consequences. You are held accountable to the Student Code of Conduct, which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications
You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

Disability and Access Statement
LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodation but are not yet registered with CFAR,

please visit the CFAR website at www.linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

Statement of Inclusion
To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Title IX Reporting Policy
If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can report a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

Campus Police/Emergency Resources
You may review emergency services and resources at the LBCC Public Safety website. Campus Safety can be reached using the 'Code 2' button on any campus phone or by dialing x411 on campus or (541) 917-4440 off campus. Dial 911 for off campus emergencies.

Campus Resources

Learning Center
The Learning Center provides academic support and a comfortable place to study. It is located on the second floor above the Library. It also provides free tutoring services for all classes.

Library
Computers and printing available

Science Help Desk
Is located in the atrium on the first floor of Madrone Hall and is manned 20 hours per week.

A FINAL NOTE: I want all my students to succeed in this course. Do not hesitate to ask me or your peers questions, this class is a safe environment that encourages all learning. I hope you all enjoy this course! ☺

Tips for Success in this class

Some of you may have been attending classes in college for some time, while for other students, this may be your first or second term at the college. Some key strategies that lead to student success is as follows:

1. Show up. This is actually half of the entire success recipe in academia. If you show up, you are less likely to miss things.
2. Be prepared. Prepare as if you have to teach the information you are learning. Look at the material in this course before class sessions so you have a baseline familiarity with the new terms and concepts.
3. Take notes. The simple act of writing something down helps your brain store new information longer.
4. Don't be afraid to ask your instructor to repeat things that you might have missed, we are here to help you succeed. Repetition of concepts, and terms will help everyone understand the new information better.
5. Don't be afraid to ask your instructor to slow down if they are going too fast for you.
6. Take advantage of office hours or scheduling Zoom meetings with your instructor.
7. Check your LBCC e-mail on a regular basis for updates and announcements that an instructor may post during the week.
8. Make a study plan and try intense study cycles.
9. Don't put off doing work until the last minute. Working on labs and preparing for exams a little bit each day allows you to slowly incorporate information into your learning process, whereas doing a lot of work at the last second to meet a deadline doesn't allow your brain the time it needs to absorb information.
10. If you have a life conflict, or something that is holding you back, please contact me. We can make a plan that might help you succeed and remove barriers to learning. There are many options available to you through the college, and I am more than happy to help you as I can, or to lead you to resources that are offered by the college.

Class Schedule

* Unless otherwise indicated all assignments are due Sunday's at 11:59 pm

Dates	Week	Topics	Readings	Assignments
9/27 - 10/3	1.	Class Introduction, Intro to Science	CH. 1	Quiz #1 Lab 1 – Topographic Maps
10/4 – 10/10	2.	Astronomy	CH. 2	Quiz #2 Lab 2 – Astronomy
10/11 - 10/17	3.	Rock Cycle	CH. 3 - 6	Quiz #3 Lab 3 – Rock Type
10/18 - 10/24	4.	Plate Tectonics	CH. 7	Quiz #4 Lab 4 – Plate Tectonics **Exam 1 (10/24)**
10/25 – 10/31	5.	Volcanoes	CH. 8	Quiz #5 Lab 5 - Volcanic Explosivity
11/1 - 11/7	6.	Earthquakes	CH. 9	Quiz #6 Lab 6 – Seismology
11/8 - 11/14	7.	Hydrology	CH. 10-11	Quiz #7 Lab 7 - Stream Tables **Exam 2 (11/14)**
11/15 - 11/21	8.	Weather	CH. 15	Quiz #8 Lab 8 – Weather Processes
11/22 - 11/28	9.	Climate Change	CH. 16	Quiz #9 Lab 9 – Climate Change
11/29 - 12/5	10.	Humans and Earth Systems	CH. 17	Quiz #10 Lab 10 – Humans and Nature
12/6 - 12/8		**Finals Week**		**Final Exam (12/8)**

Important Dates:

Oct 4th Last Day to Drop the Class

Nov 14th Last Day to Withdraw with a "W"

Dec 8th Final Due