



Course Information

Semester & Year:	Fall 2024
Course Title:	Historical Geology
Course Prefix & Number:	GLG102IN
Section Number:	13068/13069
Credit Hours:	4
Start Date:	September 3, 2024
End Date:	December 13, 2024
Room Number:	NS406
Meeting Days:	On your own time (asynchronous) online
Meeting Times:	N/A

Course Format

The course format for this course is 14-week On Your Own Time Online. All materials are found in Canvas, and due dates apply.

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr. Merry Wilson
Email:	merry.wilson@scottsdalecc.edu
Phone:	480-423-6392
Office Location:	NS130
Office Hours:	T/Th 9:30-10:30 or by appointment online or in-person

Course Description

The origin and history of the Earth, its dynamic geographic and climatic changes. Evolution and sequence of life recorded in the fossil record; tectonic evolution of major continents through time.

Prerequisites

None

Course Competencies

1. Describe how scientific inquiry has shaped commonly held ideas about the geologic history of the Earth.
2. Explain how minerals and rocks are formed.
3. Describe the current theory of plate tectonics and provide scientific evidence that supports this concept.
4. Describe techniques used to date geologic strata and explain the limitations of each.
5. Explain the process of fossilization and describe how that might relate to the completeness of the fossil record.
6. Describe how fossil record relates to geologic stratigraphy and the geologic time scale.
7. Identify important fossils in hand specimen and explain how they can be used to date geologic strata.
8. Distinguish between the characteristics of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and explain their importance in interpreting the Earth's history.
9. Outline the development of evolution theory and provide evidence supporting this concept.
10. Distinguish between the various eons and eras of the Earth's history and explain their relationship to life forms, climate and plate tectonics.
11. Identify folds and faults using geologic maps and explain how they can be used to interpret the geologic history of an area.

Texts and Course Materials

None.

Course Technologies

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of technologies used in this course.

Maricopa Systems

This course uses key Maricopa systems for course management and communication.

- Canvas Learning Management System
- Student Maricopa Gmail Account
- Maricopa Open Educational Resource Learning System (MOER)

Student Assignment Tools

This course requires students to participate in or submit assignments using desktop or cloud-based applications.

- Google Products
- Microsoft Office 365
- Screencast-O-Matic/ScreenPal
- Adobe Creative Cloud

Course Policies

The following are policies specific to this course. Students are also responsible for the college policies included on the [Student Regulations](#) page of the Maricopa Community College District website.

Academic Misconduct. Cheating will not be tolerated. Academic misconduct of any kind will result in a grade of “F” for the course.

You will be withdrawn from the class if you do not complete the introductory assignments within two days or you do not complete two consecutive weeks of course materials.

No Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Allowed

In this class, all work submitted must be your own. The use of generative AI tools will be considered academic misconduct (see Administrative Regulation 2.3.11 1.B(b)) and will be treated as such. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is a generative AI tool, please contact the instructor for further clarification before using the tool or website.

Grading Standards & Practices

Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

Assignments

Assignment Name	Points	Percent of Grade
Knowledge Checks		35%
Discussion		25%
Laboratory Exercises		25%
Virtual Field Trip		15%
TOTAL:		100%

Knowledge Checks (35%) are of various individual point totals. Knowledge checks are designed to deliver the majority of the content in the course. They are set up as textbooks and videos with embedded quiz questions that are graded automatically. Each can be completed twice. Late knowledge checks will be accepted up to 1 week late until the last week of class.

Discussion (25%) Discussion posts are designed to provide a point of critical thinking and application of concepts. Some discussions are written and some require the student to create short videos to research/explain a topic. All discussion assignments include student feedback/responses to other students with are due 1 week later. Late discussions are not accepted after the response due date (which allows for a 1-week grace period), as at that point – there is no one to discuss anything with.

Laboratory Exercises (25%) are each worth 100 points. This is a laboratory course, so 1 of the 4 required credits of the class is devoted entirely to laboratory activities. These are designed as exploration and application activities. They are graded on completeness and accuracy. Late labs will be accepted up to 1 week late with no penalty.

Virtual Field Trips (15%) are each worth 100 points. These are application assignments that are evaluated as you go. You can take them as many times as necessary to receive the score you want, and you upload proof of your expertise. They are accepted up to one week late with no penalty until the last week of class.

Response Time

Students can expect a response time of 24 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) for the instructor to respond to messages sent via the Canvas Learning Management System or email. Students can expect assignments to be graded 1 week after the assignment's due date.

Grading will be completed after the one-week grace period on assignments has passed to allow for equity in grading.

Instructional Contact Hours (Seat Time)

This is a four (4) credit-hour laboratory science course taught on an accelerated schedule. Plan to spend at least 10 hours on course content or seat time (direct instruction) weekly.

Online Tutoring

SCC's tutors are available online to help with your courses. You may work with an SCC tutor remotely using Google Meet, your phone, or email. Visit the [SCC Tutoring & Learning Centers](#) page for detailed information on the five learning center's hours and procedures.

As much as possible, it is highly recommended that you utilize SCC tutors since they are more familiar with SCC coursework, instructor expectations, and assignments; however, if you need to work with a tutor outside regular hours, online and hybrid students now have access to a 24/7 online tutoring service called Brainfuse. Brainfuse provides online tutoring in a variety of academic subjects. Each student may utilize up to 6 hours of online tutoring through Brainfuse per semester, and has the option of requesting additional time if needed.

To access Brainfuse and begin working with a tutor:

1. Visit the [SCC Online Tutoring Services Through Brainfuse](https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/students/tutoring/online-tutoring) page (https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/students/tutoring/online-tutoring)
2. Click the **Visit a tutor online** button
3. Enter your MEID and password

4. Choose your topic and subject
5. Click the **Connect** button

Please use your time effectively and be prepared with your questions before you connect to a tutor. Tutors and students communicate in real-time so whatever you type, draw, or share on the screen, the tutor sees, and vice versa. You may also want to have screenshots ready if applicable. All Brainfuse sessions are recorded for review later.

Students are responsible for the information contained in this syllabus, the Syllabus page in your Canvas course and the **College Policies & Student Services** page found in the First Steps module of your Canvas course. Students will be notified by the instructor of any changes in course requirements or policies.