

Course Objectives for GEOL 20: General Oceanography

The course objectives for Oceanography expand out of the overarching Student Learning Outcomes. In general they are intended to foster an understanding of scientific approaches to problem solving and a specific knowledge of the Earth's ocean as an integrated system.

- A. Examine the use of scientific methodology through the history of geographical and scientific exploration of the ocean system.
- B. Describe the ocean system as an integral part of Earth's environment, with emphasis on those features and processes that are uniquely oceanic.
- C. Examine Earth's plate tectonic framework. Explain the relationship between earthquakes and volcanoes, particularly those in western California, and the geological changes in the sea floor.
- D. Compare the variety of marine geological provinces, from continental shelves to the deep sea, and the physical and geological characteristics of these provinces.
- E. Analyze the chemical and physical properties of seawater, and the importance that these properties have in maintenance of life on the planet.
- F. Describe the distributions of temperature, salinity and density in the oceans, and how the oceans achieve these distributions.
- G. Examine the impact of waves, ocean currents, and tides on the ocean system. Describe the impact of these processes on climate, maritime operations and human exploitation of the marine environment.
- H. Examine critical issues facing the marine environment.
- I. Appreciate the role of oceanographic research in resource development, pollution control, national security, and understanding Earth's climate system.

Required Materials

- Textbook:** *Essentials of Oceanography* by Trujillo and Thurman
Ocean Discovery Journal: Each student will keep their completed work from discussion activities in a notebook (journal).
Other: Pencil, eraser, millimeter-scale ruler and calculator.

Class Format and Requirements

Oceanography is a four-unit course consisting of four-hours weekly workshop-style instruction, integrating lecture, discussion and one Saturday field trip. The discussion meetings will include either a video viewing and discussion, or a hands-on activity. These activities are designed to give you some practical experience with methods and principles common in oceanography. Students must download the discussion activity for the week from the website. You must look over before coming to class and have it to participate in the activity.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is critically important to your success in this course. In general missing more than a week's worth of class time may result in dismissal from the course. This is NOT automatic though and if you intend to drop the course it is your responsibility to initiate the drop with admissions and records. Also you may not drop OR be dropped from the course once the last day to drop (02/28/14, for the Winter Term) has past.

Note: Failure to properly withdraw from the course will result in a letter grade of "F" for the course.

Tardiness

Arriving late to class or lab can be terribly disruptive to the educational process. It may not seem like much but each individual arriving late distracts from what we are doing in class. Moreover, as many important announcements and the framework of the lecture (putting the learning into perspective) presented at the beginning of class, these few minutes have HUGE impact on your own learning.

Cheating

Don't do this! If you're found to be engaging in academically dishonest behavior ("cheating") while participating in this course, you will receive a letter grade of F for the assignment and may be referred to the Dean of Students for college disciplinary action. Students found to be cheating on any assignment will call into question the validity of their course assessment and must retake ALL assessment instruments to insure their voracity. There are absolutely NO exceptions to this policy.

Academic Policies

You are advised to consult the College Catalog or Student Handbook regarding issues of discipline, cheating, etc. The counseling staff and I are also available to discuss college policy as the need arises.

Academic Progress

You are encouraged to monitor and discuss with me your academic progress in this course. The grading system is clearly outlined below and there will be no "special" projects available to make up for *poor* academic performance.

Cellular Phones, MP3 players (iPODs), Computers

Using any electronic devices with the exception of laboratory computers can really derail the educational environment of the class and is strictly prohibited. Computers used to take notes during lecture are allowed as long as they are not being used for another purpose or for online access of any kind. Laboratory computers are for completing laboratory activities only and not to be used for other purposes. If you are found to be using any electronic device during a test, quiz, or exam, you will receive a 0 and be asked to leave the class for the day. This will be considered an absence for purposes of the attendance policy.

Field Workshop

Enrolling in this course during the term is the option of the student. If the student chooses to enroll in Geology 20 he/she **MUST** attend the Introductory Field Workshop*. Please see the schedule below for the date and time of the field workshop. As required by state law all student's participating in the workshop MUST sign the appropriate waiver of liability. Student's not wishing to participate or who do not wish to sign the waiver and release of liability will be dropped from the class.

*****Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Exemption from Field Work:*** *Students with physical limitations or other special needs that would preclude participation in fieldwork will be given an appropriate alternate assignment. Every reasonable accommodation will be provided so that all students can participate and benefit from the field experience. If you have questions or concerns regarding access and participation issues please contact your instructor. This exemption only applies to students with documented disabilities that have been verified through the Disabled Students Program & Services Office at De Anza College.*

Grades

Grades are based on objective assessment in the course and your participation in hands-on activities.

1,000 pts for the class:

150 pts. Activities and Field Work

Activities 100 pts. Given as in-class collaborative assignments.

Field Activity* 50 pts. Mandatory coastal field workshop. Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements.

750 pts. Subject Mastery Tests (3 @ 250 pts. each):

Subject Mastery Test 1: Ocean Floor 250 pts.

Given as collaborative/take home Subject Mastery Test.

Part A 250 pts Basic Knowledge and Understanding Questions

Part B 25 extra credit pts Application and Deeper Understanding Questions

Subject Mastery Test 2: Physical Oceanography 250 pts.

Given as collaborative/take home Subject Mastery Test.

Part A 250 pts Basic Knowledge and Understanding Questions

Part B 25 extra credit pts Application and Deeper Understanding Questions

Subject Mastery Test 3: Coastal Oceans and Coastal Processes 250 pts.

Given as collaborative/take home Subject Mastery Test.

Part A 250 pts Basic Knowledge and Understanding Questions

Part B 25 extra credit pts Application and Deeper Understanding Questions

100 pts. Final Exam*

A review of questions from the three subject mastery tests (in-class, non collaborative assessment).

Students MUST be present at and participate in the final exam to pass the class. Students failing the final exam will have points deducted from their aggregate scores for every point below passing recorded on the exam.

Final Grade

Plus	Letter Grade	Minus	Rubric
A+ > 999 pts	A = 895 to 999	A- = 875 to 894	Student displays both a level of knowledge and understanding of the ocean system superior to the general public.
B+ = 855 to 874	B = 771 to 854	B- = 750 to 770	Student displays a level of knowledge of the ocean system significantly above that of the general public; and a basic understanding of the principles governing the ocean system.
C+ = 730 to 749	C = 625 to 730		Student demonstrates a basic knowledge of the ocean system above that of the general public.
D+ = 605 to 624	D = 520 to 604	D- = 500 to 519	Student does not demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the ocean system beyond that of the general public.
	F < 500 pts		

Final grades are “non-negotiable” and are based entirely on your performance in class work, collaborative experiences, subject mastery tests and final exam. Once posted, grades cannot be changed unless there is a recording error. This is a matter of State Law. Please don’t ask!

*Each student is required to attend the field trip and be present at, AND PASS, the final examination to receive a passing grade for the course.

Class Schedule

Schedule is tentative and may be changed as needed by the instructor

<u>WEEK</u> Dates	<u>Topic:</u> Assignment	<u>Reading</u>
PROLOUGE: THE STUDY OF THE WATER WORLD		
01 04/05-04/07	Science and the Study of the Water World <i>An Introduction to the Course and the Science of Oceanography</i>	Chap. 1 <i>Skim only</i>
PART I: THE OCEAN FLOOR		
02 04/12-04/14	Secrets of the Deep <i>Exploring the Ocean Floor</i>	Chap. 3
DISC	Activity: Visualizing Topography	
03 04/19-04/21	The Dynamic Ocean Floor <i>Plate Tectonics & the Origin of Ocean Basins</i>	Chap. 2
DISC	Activity: Plate Tectonics	
04 04/26-04/28	The Record of Ancient Oceans <i>Marine Sediments and Erosion of the Ocean Floor</i>	Chap. 4
DISC	Activity: Discovering Sand <i>Subject Mastery Test I sent out this week.</i>	
PART II: PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY		
05 05/03-05/05	The Rising Tide: Oceans, Currents and Carbon Dioxide Ocean Circulation & the Climate System	Chap. 7
DISC	Activity: Climate in the news <i>Subject Mastery Test I due Tuesday (05/03)</i>	
06 05/10-05/12	The Relentless Sea <i>Waves on Water</i>	Chap. 8
DISC	Activity: Sea Level	
07 05/17-05/19	Rising Seas <i>Tides and the Rhythmic Rise and Fall of Sea Level</i>	Chap. 9
DISC	Activity: Using Tide Data <i>Subject Mastery Test II sent out this week.</i>	

<u>WEEK</u> Dates	<u>Topic:</u> Assignment	<u>Reading</u>
PART III: COASTAL SYSTEMS		
08 05/24--05/26	The Changing Coastlines of Planet Earth <i>Beach Processes and Coastal Erosion</i>	Chap. 10
DISC	Activity: Coastal Processes <i>Subject Mastery Test II due in class on Tuesday (05/24)</i>	
09 05/29-06/02	The Oceans at Our Reach <i>The Coastal Ocean and Our Legacy on a Water World</i>	Chap. 11
DISC	Activity: Constructing Beach Profiles <i>Subject Mastery Test III sent out this week.</i>	
PROLOUGE: OCEANS IN POPULAR CULTURE		
10 06/07-06/09	Myths, Monsters and the Sea <i>A look at the Ocean System in the Arts and Popular Culture</i> <i>Subject Mastery Test III due Tuesday (06/07).</i>	
SATURDAY 06/11	Introductory Field Workshop (Required): <i>Beach processes and coastal geology of the San Mateo County Coastline, California. Time: 11:30 am –2:00 pm</i>	
11 06/02-06/04	<u>No Oceanography Class Meetings This Week</u> <i>Field workshop exchange for all class meetings</i> <i>I recommend that you use this time to schedule collaborative meetings with your classmates to study for final exam.</i>	
12	FINAL EXAM WEEK	

Final Exam Schedule:

Section GEOL 20-01 Note: normally meets at 4:30 pm: Do NOT be late for the final exam

Thursday 06/23 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Bring an appropriate Scantron® and No. 2 pencils to the final exam.

**Students must attend and participate in the final exam and participate in the introductory field workshop to receive a passing grade in the class.*