Earth & Environmental Science (EES)

Courses

EES 0836. Disasters: Geology vs. Hollywood. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer I.
Clips from Hollywood disaster movies will drive our inquiry into geologic phenomena. Can you really drive over a lava flow in a jeep? (Dante’s Peak) Are we foolish not to prepare for a major earthquake in New York City? (Aftershock) Could global warming melt the polar ice caps turning “dry land” into a myth? (Waterworld) Would the impact of an asteroid the “size of Texas” kill half the Earth by heat and freeze the remainder in a nuclear winter? (Armageddon) Learn the fundamentals of plate tectonics, how petrologic properties control volcanic explosivity, how to calculate earthquake locations from seismic data, and prepare a disaster readiness plan for a major U.S. city. NOTE: This course fulfills a Science & Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science & Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core.

Course Attributes: GS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

EES 0837. Evolution & Extinctions. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer I.
Basic geologic principles and the fundamentals of evolutionary thought combine to bring to life the 4.5 billion year story of our planet and its creatures. Through hands-on experience with fossils and rocks, students discover how to decipher past environments from the geologic record and investigate changes in life through time. You may have read that an asteroid impact wiped out the dinosaurs, but can “natural” Earth-based processes also cause mass extinctions? Should we be less worried about rocks from space, and more about “down to Earth” phenomena such as climate change? NOTE: This course fulfills a Science & Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science & Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core.

Course Attributes: GS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

EES 0842. Sustainable Environments. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer II.
Americans account for over a quarter of all fossil fuel consumption, own more cars than there are licensed drivers, and build new homes 40 percent larger than they did in 1975, despite shrinking household size. We feel for the pandas and polar bears, while contributing mightily to global climate change, resource inequity, and ecosystem destruction. How do we reckon with environmental crises at multiple scales, from the neighborhood to the atmosphere and oceans? “Think globally, act locally” environmentalists admonish us! Direct our vast human ingenuity and collective spirit toward technologies and behaviors that bring peace with the planet. Course mission: enhance your capability to make informed choices, based on a sound understanding of the ecological, technological, economic, political, and ethical dimensions of environmental sustainability. NOTE: This course fulfills a Science & Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science & Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed GUS 0842 or ENST 0842.

Course Attributes: GS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

EES 0854. Geology of the National Parks. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall and Spring.
The primary purpose of the National Park Service is to preserve areas of natural or cultural interest for current and future generations. Quite commonly these areas of interest, such as the Grand Canyon, or Yellowstone National Park, are the result of extreme geologic forces which have shaped the landscape. The goal of this class is to use geologic principles to understand the “science of the scenery” of individual parks. Students will also address key issues within individual parks, such as the competing interests of visitor access vs. land management, the societal need for natural resources, and the preservation of unique or delicate ecosystems. NOTE: (1) This course fulfills a Science & Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science & Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core. (2) Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed EES 0954.

Course Attributes: GS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
EES 0954. Honors Geology of the National Parks. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall.
The primary purpose of the National Park Service is to preserve areas of natural or cultural interest for current and future generations. Quite commonly these areas of interest, such as the Grand Canyon, or Yellowstone National Park, are the result of extreme geologic forces which have shaped the landscape. The goal of this class is to use geologic principles to understand the "science of the scenery" of individual parks. Students will also address key issues within individual parks, such as the competing interests of visitor access vs. land management, the societal need for natural resources, and the preservation of unique or delicate ecosystems. NOTE: (1) This course fulfills a Science & Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science & Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core. (2) Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed EES 0854. (3) This is an Honors course.

Cohort Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Cohorts: SCHONORS, UHONORS, UHONORSTR.

Course Attributes: GS, HO

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

EES 1001. Introductory Geology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Summer I and Summer II.
An introduction to the basic principles and processes of geology. Wide range of topics, including rocks and minerals, surface processes, plate tectonics, and the earth's interior. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy the university Core Science & Technology First Level (SA) requirement. To determine if this course in combination with another course can satisfy the GenEd Science & Technology requirement, see your advisor.

Course Attributes: SA

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
MATH 0701 to 0702| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 0800 to 4999| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC3 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC4 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC5 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1001|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1102|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1902|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC3A Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6A Y|May not be taken concurrently

EES 2001. Physical Geology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer I.
Introductory geology course designed for geology and environmental science majors and focused on theory and concepts needed for advanced study. Laboratory sessions (3 hrs/week) focus on the properties of mineral and rock specimens, map skills, and the development of basic field techniques.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
MATH 0701 to 0702| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 0800 to 4999| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC3 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC4 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC5 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MA01 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1001|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1102|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR STAT 1902|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC3A Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6A Y|May not be taken concurrently.
EES 2011. Mineralogy I. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall.
Fundamentals of hand-specimen analysis including crystallography, bonding, physical properties, chemical composition and growth of common minerals.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (CHEM 1031|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1041|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1951|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently)

EES 2012. Mineralogy II. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
Microanalysis by polarized light microscopy, powder x-ray diffractometry and microprobe including site occupancy, crystal growth, and microstructural defects with emphasis on silicates.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2011|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 2021. Sedimentary Environments. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall and Spring.
Analysis of sedimentological and stratigraphic data to derive facies interpretations. Laboratory and field exercises emphasize data collection, interpretation and graphical presentation. NOTE: Several required day-long field trips. (Prior to fall 2016, this course was titled "Facies Models.")

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 2022. Paleontology and Stratigraphy. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
Fundamental concepts of stratigraphy combined with functional/ecological analysis of fossil invertebrates. Two multi-day field trips focused on correlation of strata, paleoecologic analysis, and reconstruction of geologic history. NOTE: Two multi-day (including weekends) field trips are required.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 2031. Introduction to Field Methods in the Earth and Environmental Sciences. 1 Credit Hour.
This course is typically offered in Summer.
This course offers a short, two-week, intensive introduction to various field methods. Techniques covered will provide a background and foundation to prepare students for both future field courses as well as employment in the environmental industry. Students will learn mapping techniques (geologic and topographic), analysis and understanding of well-log and geophysical data, stream flow analysis, and use of a compass to determine geologic structures and history. This course will include multiple field trips.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
EES 2051. Introduction to Data Visualization and Analysis for Earth and Environmental Science. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in the Fall.
This course provides an introduction to the management, visualization, and analysis of data sets common to Earth and Environmental Science. Microsoft Excel and Matlab will be introduced and then used to analyze example data sets which introduce and reinforce key algebraic, calculus and physics concepts. Student understanding and skill is developed through projects analyzing stream flow, earthquake populations, plate tectonics and hot spot motion, atmospheric CO2 concentration, and topography.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (MATH 1022|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1031|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1038|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1041|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1042|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1044|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1941|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1942|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1951|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC6 Y|May not be taken concurrently)

EES 2061. Introduction to Geochemistry. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
Application of chemical principles and quantitative methods to understand and solve various geological problems. Field trips and laboratory exercises will emphasize techniques of obtaining and measuring geological samples. Students will analyze, summarize, and present data in oral and written reports.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (CHEM 1031|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1041|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1951|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently)

EES 2065. Nanogeoscience and Technology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall.
Today, everyone is talking about nanomaterials, even advertisements for consumer products use the prefix "nano" as a keyword for special features. Nanotechnology is one of the most important new technologies of the 21st century. Through this course, history, principles, mechanisms, many exciting phenomena and the processes of nano-scale materials, as well as their applications and environmental impact, will be covered in great detail. The lab component of this course will consist of analyzing nanoparticles in water samples, extracting nanomaterials from consumer products, and monitoring plant growth from soils amended with nanomaterials. Through the course of the lab exercises, students will have hands-on experience on various instruments, including inductively-coupled plasma spectrometry, x-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscopy, and transmission electron microscopy.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (CHEM 1032|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1042|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1952|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
AND (CHEM 1034|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1044|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR CHEM 1954|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently)
EES 2096. Climate Change: Oceans To Atmosphere. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
The major topics in Oceanography will be covered in addition to introducing students to meteorology through the study of the Atmospheric circulation system. These topics will give students a better understanding of climate change and forecasting. The course includes a significant writing project.

Field of Study Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Fields of study: Environmental Science, Earth & Space Sci with Teachin, Geology, Sec Ed-Science Ed.

Course Attributes: WI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 2097. Process Geomorphology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall of even years.
The course will examine key Earth surface processes and landforms, including the role of tectonic, climatic, and biological agents in landscape evolution and quantitative analysis of morphological elements produced by glaciers, rivers, wind, and mass-movement processes.

Course Attributes: WI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 3011. Remote Sensing and GIS. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring of odd years.
The focus of this class is on remote sensing technologies and geographic information systems. Remote sensing is a dynamic field; new, high-resolution satellites are coming online almost daily, and there has been an exponential growth in applications of remote sensing data during the past decade, including: mineral exploration, precision agriculture, watershed management, land use classification, military intelligence, and climate monitoring. The demand for college graduates with experience in this field is growing exponentially as well. By the end of this class you won't be a remote sensing expert, but you will have a fundamental understanding of the uses and limitations of remote sensing data for geologic and environmental applications, as well as fundamental geographic information systems skills. NOTE: Prior to Spring 2009, this course was titled “Use of Microcomputers in Geology.”


Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Junior 60 to 89 Credits, Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

EES 3021. Groundwater Hydrology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in the Fall.
This course provides an introduction to groundwater geology. Topics include how geology influences groundwater flow and geochemistry, how groundwater and surface water interact, and contamination and remediation issues. Student understanding of groundwater and contaminant movement is developed through a series of homework problems and labs that require basic algebra skills.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (MATH 1022|Minimum Grade of C|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1038 to 4999| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MC6 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6A Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MA04 Y|May not be taken concurrently)
EES 3025. Physical Hydrology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
This course examines the physical principles governing the flow of water on and beneath the Earth’s surface and the relationship of hydrological processes to other disciplines such as geology, ecology, and atmospheric sciences.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (MATH 1022|Minimum Grade of C|May not be taken concurrently)
OR MATH 1038 to 4999| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of C|May be taken concurrently
OR MC6 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MA04 Y|May not be taken concurrently
OR MC6A Y|May not be taken concurrently)

EES 3042. Coastal Processes and Geomorphology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
The course will apply a process geomorphological approach to understanding coastal behavior. Subjects will include the global distribution of coasts, wave and tidal hydraulics, barrier morphodynamics, nearshore and aeolian sediment transport, and morphological signatures of extreme events.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR EES 2042|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR EES 2097|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 3091. Research Methods. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
Research Methods is required for all of the TUteach with Teaching majors. It is one of several content courses specially designed to meet the needs of future teachers. Sections meet two hours per week for non-traditional, interactive lectures and two hours per week for lab. The course is cross-listed in Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, and Physics. The goals of the course are (1) to provide students with the tools that scientists use to solve scientific problems; (2) to give students the opportunity to use these tools in a laboratory setting; (3) to make students aware of how scientists communicate with each other through peer-reviewed scientific literature; and (4) to enable students to understand how scientists develop new knowledge and insights, the most important of which are eventually presented in textbooks and taught in conventional science classes. Students design and carry out four independent inquiries, which they write up and present in the manner that is common in the scientific community. The inquiries incorporate mathematics and the various science disciplines, thus the team of instructors teaching this course have expertise in different disciplines and are available to supervise all students as they work on their inquiries in the lab. The combination of Research Methods and the TUteach course “Perspectives on Science and Mathematics” (Philosophy 2196) provides prospective science and mathematics teachers with an in-depth understanding of how the scientific enterprise works. NOTE: EES 3091 is only available for major credit in the Earth and Space Science with Teaching BS program.

College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Science & Technology.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites:
SCTC 1289|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR SCTC 1389|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.

EES 4082. Individual Study Program. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
This course is typically offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer I.
Individual independent study and research under supervision of a member of the Earth & Environmental Science Faculty. A final written report will be submitted to the faculty member. For further information and details, see the undergraduate advisor. NOTE: Student must have a GPA of 3.25 at the end of the first semester of their junior year.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
EES 4101. Structural Geology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Spring.
The purpose of this course is to train students in the concepts and techniques of structural geology. Students will learn how to collect, analyze, and interpret geologic data drawn from a variety of disciplines pertinent to structural geology and present a cohesive argument. Results are presented as maps, reports, and computer models. NOTE: Geology B.S. Capstone.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2011|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (PHYS 1061|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR PHYS 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR PHYS 2921|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)

EES 4200. Topics in Geoscience. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is not offered every year.
This seminar will allow students to study current problems in geology and environmental science. NOTE: Elective for Earth and Environmental Science majors (Geology and Environmental Science). May be taken multiple times (on different topics) with permission of instructor.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

EES 4210. Topics in Geoscience with Lab. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is not offered every year.
This seminar will allow students to study current problems in geology and environmental science. NOTE: Elective for Earth and Environmental Science majors (Geology and Environmental Science). May be taken multiple times (on different topics) with permission of instructor.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

EES 4589. Field Geology. 6 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Summer.
The purpose of this course is to train students in the techniques and methodologies of field geology. Students will learn how to collect, analyze, and interpret field data across a variety of geologic disciplines. Results are presented as maps, reports, measured sections, and computer models. NOTE: Students take this course through other institutions. The selection of the camp must be approved by the Geology undergraduate advisor.

Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Junior 60 to 89 Credits, Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2001|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 2011|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 4096|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR EES 4101|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)

EES 4696. Vertebrate Paleontology and Taphonomy. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall of odd years.
This course examines vertebrate fossils and their importance for interpreting and reconstructing terrestrial ecosystems. Students will learn the basics of vertebrate skeletal anatomy, interpret transport and depositional histories of skeletal elements and assemblages, and combine this information with geologic data to reconstruct paleoenvironmental settings and paleocommunity associations. Several class sessions will meet off-campus at local museums; one weekend field trip is required.

Course Attributes: WI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
EES 2022|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently.
EES 4725. Soils and Paleosols. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is divided into two parts: modern soils and paleosols. The goals of this course are to teach students the fundamentals of modern soil genesis and classification in order to interpret ancient soils preserved in the rock record (paleosols), and to incorporate models of soil genesis into the traditional geology paradigm. Students will be exposed to a combination of laboratory methods and field work.

Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2021|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EES 2022|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently)

EES 4811. Planetary Geology. 4 Credit Hours.
This course is typically offered in Fall of even years.
This course explores the modern and ancient geologic processes on other planets and discusses how studies of other planets can aid us in a better understanding of our Earth. The course will also cover topics such as planetary exploration and astrobiology. Includes a lab.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EES 2061|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR EES 3096|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (MATH 1041|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1941|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1038|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1042|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1044|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1942|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 1951|Minimum Grade of C-|May be taken concurrently
OR MATH 2043 to 3080| Required Courses:1|Minimum Grade of D|May be taken concurrently)