GEOL101: INTRODUCTION TO THE EARTH
Summer 2017 syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION
Lecture: MTWTh 8:30 AM-11:15 AM, EWS 209
Lab: MW 12:15-2:15 PM, EWS 102
Instructor: Erin Derrick May
  ederrick@geol.sc.edu
  Office: EWS 202; office hours by appointment

Instructional Assistant: Katherine Hickok
  khickok@geol.sc.edu

Required materials:
  Essentials of Geology, Stephen Marshak, any edition
  SmartWork 5 (Essentials of Geology from Norton)

COURSE INTRODUCTION
This course is designed to introduce students to Earth’s geologic processes and products through classroom-, laboratory- and field-based activities. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Identify the major minerals, rocks and other important Earth materials in the laboratory and in the field.
2. Understand the composition and mechanics of Earth with a focus on the “solid Earth” and plate tectonics.
3. Gain an appreciation and rudimentary understanding of the role of geologic processes on humanity and vice versa.

COURSE LOGISTICS
We will begin most days with a classroom activity and lecture, followed by laboratory activities on Monday and Wednesday. Some class days we will take a field trip to a geological location of interest in South Carolina. All field trips are mandatory. If you have a conflict that absolutely cannot be changed or any health issues that prevent you from going on the trip, you must make arrangements with the instructors for an alternative assignment. These arrangements must be made at 2 days in advance and require permission of the instructor.
A note about field trips...
Fieldwork can be one of the most rewarding aspects of geology, but it is not always comfortable. You can limit your discomfort by being prepared for the unexpected. It’s a great idea to always carry a rain jacket and a hat; bug repellent and sunscreen are also useful. One or more water bottles are always important. Sturdy but comfortable shoes are essential. Snacks are never a bad idea. If all else fails, patience, flexibility, and a good sense of humor will often get you through a rough experience.

GRADING
2 exams (25% each), class and laboratory assignments (20%), field trip participation and assignments (20%), and SmartWork (10%).

SMARTWORK
SmartWork will be assigned through Blackboard with 10 to 15 questions related to material covered in class each day. Assignments will be due the Saturday after the material was covered in class. SmartWork is assigned to provide review of the material covered in class and preparation for the midterm and final exams.

ATTENDANCE
Due to the shortened nature of summer classes, you are required to attend every class session. Absences require written documentation and a legitimate academic, medical, or extracurricular justification. Advance written or verbal notification (email is acceptable) of an expected absence is required. Students late to class may miss assessments, field trips, and lab assignments. Refer to University policies related to attendance:
http://bulletin.sc.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=1781%hl=&returnto=search

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
You are encouraged to collaborate with your fellow students during classroom, laboratory, and field-based exercises. However, verbatim duplication or other forms of plagiarism are unacceptable. Refer to the University policy on academic responsibility:
http://www.sc.edu/academicintegrity/policy.html
COURSE CALENDAR (tentative)

Week 1
5/31: Lecture: Sedimentary and Metamorphic rocks
  Lab: Minerals
6/1: Field trip to Lake Murray Spillway

Week 2
6/5: Lecture: Earth Structure, Plate Tectonics
  Lab: Plate Tectonics
6/6: Lecture: Economic Geology
6/7: Lecture: Structural Geology
  Lab: State Museum
6/8: Test Review, Field Trip to Rock Quarry

Week 3
6/12: Lecture: Midterm Exam, Hydrologic Cycle
  Lab: Stream Discharge
6/13: Lecture: Groundwater
6/14: Field Trip: Congaree National Park
6/15: Geologic Time

Week 4
6/19: Earthquakes, Volcanoes
  Lab: Earthquakes
6/20: Lecture: Coastal Processes
6/21: Field Trip to Isle of Palms
6/22: Wrap Up & Exam Review

Final Exam: Friday, 6/23 at 8:30 AM

**Schedule subject to change due to weather**