

GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The options available in the undergraduate program in geological sciences are geology and geophysics and lead to the BA degree. Both options provide a strong basis for understanding the functioning of the Earth system. Students who are uncertain as to which option best suits their needs should contact a departmental advisor or faculty mentor. In each option, the undergraduate program emphasizes coursework in theoretical, laboratory and field-oriented aspects of the geological sciences. The nearby Rocky Mountains provide a natural laboratory for many of these courses.

Students interested in the geological sciences may also wish to consider the Baker Residential Academic Program (see the Undergraduate Residential Programs (<https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/academic-enrichment-programs/undergraduate-residential-programs/>) section). Students who do not wish to pursue a career in the geosciences, or who would like to combine a basic knowledge of geologic sciences with that of some other field, should consider a minor in geological sciences. Students who intend to pursue graduate study in the geological sciences are encouraged to consider developing an honors thesis as part of their undergraduate studies.

The two options available in the undergraduate major offer different focus areas of instruction. Both options offer excellent preparation for students interested in pursuing professional careers, or graduate study, in the geological sciences.

Each option emphasizes knowledge in:

- The ways in which Earth responds to internal and external forces; the physical, chemical and biological evolution of Earth; and the nature of the materials of which the Earth is made.
- The role of physics, chemistry, mathematics and biology in understanding geological processes.
- The history of discoveries and ideas that have contributed to our current knowledge of Earth and the planetary system.

Course code for this program is GEOL.

Geology Honors Program

Opportunity is provided for qualified geology majors to participate in the geology honors program and graduate with honors (cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude) in geology. Students interested in the honors program should contact the departmental honors advisor during their junior year.

Professional Licensure

The State of Colorado does not require individuals working in Geology or the Geological Sciences to obtain Professional Geology Licensure, however many states require professional geologists to pass the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and/or Practice of Geology (PG) examinations. Information regarding ASBOG examination specifications can be found at the ASBOG (<https://www.asbog.org/>) website.

Students planning to seek professional licensure or certification for employment in a state other than Colorado, are strongly recommended to contact the appropriate licensing entity in the state in which they are, or plan to be, located in order to seek information and guidance regarding licensure or certification requirements and how the education received at

CU Boulder may assist the student in their efforts to gain licensure in that state.

Bachelor's Degree

- Geology - Bachelor of Arts (BA) (<https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/geological-sciences/geology-bachelor-arts-ba/>)

Minor

- Geology - Minor (<https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/geological-sciences/geology-minor/>)

Faculty

While many faculty teach both undergraduate and graduate students, some instruct students at the undergraduate level only. For more information, contact the faculty member's home department.

Abbott, Lon D. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_145044/)
Teaching Professor of Distinction; PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz

Anderson, Robert S. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_130117/)
Distinguished Professor; PhD, University of Washington

Anderson, Suzanne Prestrud (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_131099/)
Professor; PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Arthurs, Leilani A. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_145087/)
Associate Professor; PhD, University of Notre Dame

Chin, Karen (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_122666/)
Professor; PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara

Clark, Alisha (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_164457/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of California-Davis

Crow, Carolyn Alicia (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_163334/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of California-Los Angeles

Eberle, Jaelyn J. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_126544/)
Professor; PhD, University of Wyoming

Farmer, G. Lang (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_100498/)
Professor; PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Flowers, Rebecca M. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_144054/)
Professor; PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ge, Shemin (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_101387/)
Distinguished Professor, Chair; PhD, Johns Hopkins University

Hynek, Brian Michael (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_130622/)
Professor; PhD, Washington University

Jones, Craig H. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_105590/)
Professor; PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Kopf, Sebastian H. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_155295/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, California Institute of Technology

Mahan, Kevin H. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_143975/)
Professor; PhD, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Marchitto, Thomas (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_128241/)
Professor, Associate Chair; PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Markle, Bradley R. (https://experts.colorado.edu/individual/fisid_167413/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of Washington

Mueller, Karl Jules (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_107629/)
Professor; PhD, University of Wyoming

Overeem, Irina (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_125258/)
Associate Professor; PhD, Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)

Rahman, Shaily (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_168587/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, SUNY at Stony Brook

Schulte-Pelkum, Vera (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_126623/)
Associate Research Professor, Lecturer; PhD, University of California-San Diego

Sepulveda Arellano, Julio Cesar (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_154923/)
Associate Professor; PhD, University of Bremen (Germany)

Sheehan, Anne (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_103645/)
Chair, Professor; PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Simpson, Carl (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_159652/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of Chicago

Tilton, Eric (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_126548/)
Professor, Associate Chair; PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz

Snell, Kathryn Elaine (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_155298/)
Associate Professor; PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz

Stempien, Jennifer (https://experts.colorado.edu/individual/fisid_143751/)
Associate Teaching Professor; PhD, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Templeton, Alexis S. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_141202/)
Professor; PhD, Stanford University

Tiampo, Kristy F. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_155908/)
Professor; PhD, University of Colorado Boulder

Trower, Lizzy (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_159463/)
Assistant Professor; PhD, Stanford University

Tucker, Gregory E. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_130605/)
Professor; PhD, Pennsylvania State University

Wing, Boswell A. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_158302/)
Associate Professor; PhD, Johns Hopkins University

Courses

GEOL 1010 (3) Exploring Earth

Introductory geology for majors and non-majors. Studies Earth, its materials, its characteristics, its dynamic processes, and how it relates to people. Separate lab (GEOL 1030) is recommended. Degree credit not granted for both GEOL 1010 and GEOL 1012.

Additional Information: GT Pathways: GT-SC2 -Natural Physicl Sci:Lec Crse w/o Req Lab

Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Sequence
Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1012 (3) Exploring Earth for Scientists

Studies Earth, its materials, its characteristics, its dynamic processes, and how it relates to people. This course is an introductory geology course suitable for geology and other STEM majors. Like GEOL 1010, but taught at a higher intellectual level with a greater amount of quantitative analysis. Separate lab (GEOL 1030) is recommended. Degree credit not granted for both GEOL 1010 and GEOL 1012.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 1020 (3) Dodos, Dinosaurs, and Deinococcus: The History of a Habitable Planet

Examines how the solid, fluid, and living Earth interact, how changes in the oceans, atmosphere and life reflect that interaction over the immensity of geologic time, and how the rock record is analyzed to reconstruct the co-evolution of Earth and life.

Additional Information: GT Pathways: GT-SC2 -Natural Physicl Sci:Lec Crse w/o Req Lab

Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Sequence
Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1030 (1) Introduction to Geology Laboratory 1

Features field trips to local points of geologic interest. Studies rocks and topographic and geologic maps. Meets the MAPS requirement for natural science lab, if taken with GEOL 1010 or GEOL 1012.

Recommended: Requisite Concurrent registration in any 1000-level geology course is beneficial but not required.

Additional Information: GT Pathways: GT-SC1 - Natural Physcal Sci:Lec Crse w/ Req Lab

Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science Lab or Lab/Lec

GEOL 1040 (3) Geology of Colorado

Reviews the geologic evolution and history of Colorado. It first develops the basic concepts needed to interpret the geology and then systematically shows how the state evolved through geologic time. Designed for those who enjoy understanding the beauty and splendor of the state.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1060 (3) Global Change: An Earth Science Perspective

Focuses on evidence for planetary warming, climate change, glacier and ice-sheet melting and sea level rise both now and in the recent past. Attempts to develop understanding of the interactions within the coupled Earth system that regulate such changes. Utilizes examples from the geological and instrumental records, and evaluates the global warming forecast.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Sequence
Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1150 (3) Water, Energy and Environment: An Introduction to Earth Resources

Explores how geological processes and human populations together affect the quantity, quality and availability of Earth resources. Includes examination of the water cycle and how humans use and modify water; fossil-fuel and mineral resources, and renewable energy options. Sustainable versus non-sustainable use and population growth is considered.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1160 (3) Environmental Geoscience & Where Science Meets Society

This is an introductory-level course designed primarily for freshmen non-science majors. The course targets four main questions at the intersection of geoscience and society. (1) What is science and how is it useful to me? (2) How do Earth processes, particularly natural disasters, impact people? (3) How does the Earth, particularly its natural resources, allow people to live the way we do? (4) How do people impact the environment? The course is designed to not only support students in learning about how science and society intersect in the realm of environmental geoscience, it is also designed to support students' development of academic-success and career-ready skills including goal setting, time management, communication, collaboration and teamwork, and more.

GEOL 1170 (3) Our Deadly Planet

This course investigates those events so dramatic and catastrophic that they have left evidence in the geologic record that suggest they significantly impacted life on the planet. These include, but are not limited to, violent volcanic eruptions, mega-earthquakes and associated tsunamis, landslides and sector collapse on volcanoes, megafloods, rapid climatic change, superstorms, and impacts from asteroids and comets. The intent is to use examples from recent events and processes to frame and interpret evidence for these types of events observed in the rock record.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 1180 (3) Our Microbial Planet

Examines how microorganisms shape the world around us, both throughout the Earth's history and today. Major topics include the origin and evolution of life, the interplay between microbes and the environment, roles of microbes in global change, and applications of microbiology in biotechnology and energy.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
MAPS Course: Natural Science

GEOL 2001 (4) Planet Earth

Explores the dynamics of planet Earth with particular emphasis on the factors that make the planet habitable. Includes examination of heat balance, hydrology, geomorphology, biogeochemistry and climate history through both lecture and lab-based activities. Required for the Geology major, introduces students to the major concepts in contemporary Earth system science.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 1010 or GEOL 1012 or GEOL 1020 or GEOL 1040 or GEOL 1060 or GEOL 1150 or GEOL 1170 or GEOL 1180 or GEOL 2100 or ENVS 1000 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 2005 (4) Introduction to Earth Materials

Provides introduction to the classification, composition and properties of the materials that compose the Earth, how these materials are studied, and how they are used to interpret Earth history and processes. Required for the Geology major.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 1010 or GEOL 1012 or GEOL 1020 or GEOL 1040 or GEOL 1060 or GEOL 1150 or GEOL 1170 or GEOL 1180 or GEOL 2100 and CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 2040 (3) The Search for Life in the Universe

Introduces the scientific basis for the possible existence of life elsewhere in the universe. Includes origin and evolution of life on Earth and the search for evidence of life in our solar system, including Mars and Jupiter's moon Europa. Discusses the conditions necessary for life and whether they might arise on planets around other stars.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ASTR 2040

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 2100 (3) Environmental Geology

Introduces the influences of geologic processes on human lives and the changes human actions cause in geologic systems. Uses examples and case studies from Colorado and the West.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 2700 (2) Introduction to Field Geology

Introduces basic field techniques necessary to collect geologic data and samples, and necessary to map geologic units.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 1030 and GEOL 2005 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3005 (3) Mesozoic Monsters & Dinosaurs, Pterosaurs, and Sea Lizards

Origin and evolution of the reptiles that lived during the Mesozoic Era, including dinosaurs, pterosaurs, mosasaurs, and plesiosaurs. Course will focus on evolution, paleobiology, paleoecology, and extinction of these extraordinary animals, and a history of their discoveries. The course also introduces students to the scientific method and how hypotheses in paleontology are formulated and tested.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3010 (3) Introduction to Mineralogy

Covers origin, occurrence, identification, classification, and uses of minerals with emphasis on applications of mineralogy to economic geology and petrology. Two lectures and one lab per week.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 and GEOL 2005 and MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 (all minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisite GEOL 2005.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3020 (4) Petrology

Studies field relations, petrography, petrology, chemistry, and origins of igneous and metamorphic rocks by means of lectures, reading, and lab and field experience. Labs include instruction in the fundamentals of optical petrography and the study of rocks in thin section.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 2005 or GEOL 3010 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3023 (4) Statistics and Geographic Data

Learn how to use computational and statistical tools to solve problems in the geographic domain and apply introductory statistical concepts to real world problems through lab exercises. Using spatial data you will be trained in powerful specialized descriptive and predictive analysis technique. You will explore how to manipulate and visualize data and make inference using state-of-the art statistics software, applied to various social and Earth Science problems.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOG 3023

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Quantitative Reasoning Math

GEOL 3030 (3) Introduction to Hydrogeology

Introduces groundwater flow concepts, hydrologic cycle, physical and chemical properties, flow net, hydraulic potential, geologic controls on heterogeneity and anisotropy, aquifers and aquitards in a geologic system, saturated and unsaturated flow, flow to a well, pumping tests, and role of groundwater in geologic processes.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 1150 or GEOL 1010 or GEOL 1012 and MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3040 (3) Global Change: The Recent Geological Record

Geological records in lakes, oceans, deserts, and around glaciers indicate the significant changes in the global systems that have taken place over the last few hundred or thousand years. Explores the timing and nature of these changes. Department enforced prerequisites: any two-course sequence of natural science core courses.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3050 (2) GIS for Geologists

Provides an introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) techniques focused on geological applications. Covers GIS analyzing, mapping and GPS use. Basic computer skills are a plus before entering the class.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3070 (3) Introduction to Oceanography

Explores Earth's dynamic oceans. Discusses the disciplines of oceanography including marine geology, chemistry, biology and physical oceanography with emphasis on global change. Specific topics may include: tectonics, currents, biogeochemical cycles, ecology and global warming.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ATOC 3070

Recommended: Prerequisite any 1000-level ATOC or GEOL course or ATOC major.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3090 (3) Developing Scientific Writing Skills

Focuses on the development of scientific writing skills. Enhances student ability to write professionally, revise text and review the work of others. Writing assignments integrate the subject matter of different topics in earth science. Department enforced prerequisites: a lower division writing course and two of the following: GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2005 or GEOL 2700 or GEOL 3010 or GEOL 3030 or GEOL 3120 or GEOL 3320 or GEOL 3430 or GEOL 3820.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Written Communication
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Written Communication-Upper

GEOL 3120 (4) Structural Geology

Introduces the basic principles and processes involved in deformation of natural rocks and minerals and the techniques used to analyze a variety of common geological structures (e.g., fractures, folds, fault zones).

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 2005 (minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisite GEOL 2001.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3181 (3) Microbial Planet Laboratory

Provides beginner friendly lab & research experience working on a microbiology project. The course teaches how to conduct original scientific research from hypothesis to experimentation, evaluation and reporting. Students study non-pathogenic microorganisms they isolate themselves from nature as part of the course. Hands-on topics covered in class include how to isolate & culture new microbes; how to observe, describe and classify them; and how to examine their metabolic capabilities such as the production of antibiotics.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: MCDB 3181

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 or CHEM 1400 and CHEM 1401 (all minimum grade C-).

Recommended: Prerequisite GEOL 1180 or MCDB 1150 or EBIO 1210.

GEOL 3300 (3) Extraterrestrial Life

Discusses the scientific basis for the possible existence of extraterrestrial life. Includes origin and evolution of life on Earth; the possibility of life elsewhere in the solar system, including Mars; and the possibility of life on planets around other stars. Department enforced prerequisite: one-year sequence in a natural science.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ASTR 3300

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3320 (3) Introduction to Geochemistry

Students build upon principles introduced in general chemistry in order to predict and interpret chemical dynamics in Natural environmental systems. We explore the formation and chemical differentiation of the early Earth, how chemical weathering and mineral dissolution and precipitation modifies the Earth's surface, and how redox biogeochemistry shapes aquatic environments.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 and MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3330 (3) Principles of Geophysics

Provides an introduction to fundamental geophysics including seismology, geomagnetism, gravity, and electromagnetic methods with applications to plate tectonics and exploration of the subsurface.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 and PHYS 1110 or PHYS 1115 and GEOL 2001 (all minimum grade D).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3410 (3) Paleobiology

Surveys morphology, ecology and evolution of ancient animal and plant life and their interactions on Earth. Fossils used to solve geological and biological problems. Department enforced prerequisites: GEOL 1010 and GEOL 1020 or GEOL 2005 or EBIO 1030 and EBIO 1040 or EBIO 1210 and EBIO 1220 (all minimum grade of C-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3430 (4) Sedimentology and Stratigraphy

Introduces the study of sedimentary rocks emphasizing their origin, characteristics, and interpretation; and the principles and techniques for establishing the temporal order and spatial distribution of sedimentary layers.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 2005 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3520 (3) Energy and Climate Change: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Examines sources of energy and other resources in light of their availability, use, environmental impact, as well as their impact on policy, economics and values. As fossil fuels are the dominant energy source today, particular emphasis is placed on climate impacts and the carbon cycle. All material is assessed through the lenses of the physical sciences, policy, ethics and economics. Department enforced prerequisite: a two-course sequence in any natural science.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ENVS 3520

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3540 (3) Introduction to Petroleum Geology

Discusses the origin and distribution of conventional and unconventional petroleum resources, source rocks, types of traps and seals, reservoir rock properties, exploration methods (seismic data analysis and interpretation, formation evaluation, subsurface mapping), reservoir characterization and modeling, reserves calculations. Department enforced prerequisite: GEOL 1010.

Recommended: Corequisite GEOL 3430.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3600 (3) Introduction to Python Programming for Earth Scientists

Introduces students to scientific computing and computer programming using the Python language. Emphasis is on scientific applications such as data input and analysis, plotting, and simulation. Examples are drawn from earth and environmental sciences. Course covers variables, operations, data types, conditionals, loops, data structures, array calculations, and libraries for data analysis and plotting. Coursework is primarily based on weekly programming assignments.

Recommended: Prerequisite Introductory course in GEOL, ENVS, GEOG, ATOC, or EVEN.

GEOL 3720 (3) Evolution of Life: The Geological Record

Discusses the evolution of life on Earth, beginning with the earliest origins and surveying the major steps that led to the rise of higher plants and animals. Covers modern ideas on the causes of periodic mass extinctions in both the marine and terrestrial realms. Emphasizes geologic evidence for the pathways of evolution, using examples from the ordinary to the bizarre.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3820 (4) The Fluid Earth

Examines the myriad forms of fluid behavior found on Earth, from the atmosphere to the inner core. Explores how basic principles of fluid physics may be used to understand a broad range of earth processes, including mantle convection, atmosphere and ocean dynamics, stream flow, lava spreading, and glacier motion, among others. Covers fundamental fluid concepts such as viscosity, pressure, convection, friction, and free-surface flow. Department enforced prerequisites: MATH 1300 or APPM 1340 and APPM 1345 or APPM 1350.

Recommended: Prerequisites Any 1000 level GEOL class and PHYS 1110.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 3910 (4) Earth and Planetary Inference

Introduces modern ways to interpret earth science observations in the context of conceptual models. We will learn how earth and planetary scientists synthesize geological, geochemical, and geophysical measurements and theoretical knowledge to make new discoveries and predictions. The tools that will be introduced in the course range from order-of-magnitude estimation techniques to a gentle intro to inverse thinking.

GEOL 3950 (3) Natural Catastrophes and Geologic Hazards

Surveys historic and prehistoric natural disasters, their cause and potential for recurrence. Meteorite impact, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, landslides, floods, magnetic reversals and major extinction events. Department enforced prerequisite: one year of science.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4001 (1) Geology Majors Research Seminar

Reading and discussion seminar to enhance students' critical evaluation of research design, assumptions, and presentation of results in the geosciences. Readings will focus on the events involved in the geologic evolution of the American West and its timing. Papers read will employ a variety of geologic and geophysical techniques. Geared towards students completing independent research and interested in pursuing a research-focused career. Development of career/graduate school plan and application materials is covered.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 4.00 total credit hours.

Requisites: Requires Prerequisites of GEOL 2005 or GEOL 2001 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to Geology majors only.

Recommended: Prerequisite or corequisite GEOL 2700.

GEOL 4021 (4) Petrology: Evolution of Crustal and Mantle Rocks

Origin, physical, and chemical properties of igneous and metamorphic rocks. This course develops a thermodynamic framework for the interpretation of geologic processes from observed mineral assemblages and rock textures. Laboratory component emphasizes the study of rocks in thin section and hand samples to understand earth processes in the mantle and crust.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5021

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 and GEOL 2005 and (MATH 1300 or APPM 1350) (all minimum grade C-).

Recommended: Prerequisites GEOL 2001 and 2700.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

GEOL 4060 (4) Oceanography

Examines the ocean as a system influencing the Earth's surficial processes and climate. Composition and properties of seawater, ocean circulation, waves, tides, coastal-, shallow-, and deep-water processes, biogeochemical cycles, deep sea sediments. Laboratory emphasizes the use of oceanographic data. Department enforced prerequisite: one semester chemistry or physics or geology.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5060

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab

Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4070 (3) Paleoclimatology

Covers the primary forcings and feedbacks that determine Earth's energy balance and the resultant climate system on decadal to millennial time scales. Covers ocean/atmosphere circulation, the role of ice sheets in the climate system, monsoons, Holocene climate change and 20th Century warming. Includes coverage of the proxies available to reconstruct climates of the past and the archives that contain these proxies. Department enforced prerequisite: environmental science or geology introduction sequence courses.

Recommended: Prerequisite natural science majors only.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4093 (4) Remote Sensing of the Environment

Covers acquisition and interpretation of environmental data by remote sensing. Discusses theory and sensors, as well as manual and computerized interpretation methods. Stresses infrared and microwave portions of the spectrum.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOG 5093 and GEOG 4093 and GEOL 5093

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of APPM 1340 1345 or APPM 1350 or ECON 1088 or 3818 or MATH 1081 or 1300 or 1310 or 2510 or ANTH 4000 or BCOR 1020 or GEOG 3023 or GEOL 3023 or PSCI 2075 or PSYC 2111 or SOCY 2061 or 4061 or STAT 4000 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab

Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4120 (3) Advanced Structural Geology and Tectonics

Provides valuable exposure to theory and applications related to deformation (rheology) of solid Earth materials as well as the structural and geophysical characteristics of the world's major orogenic belts. The processes that will be covered span a wide range of Earth's depths, from compaction in sedimentary rocks and flow of ice/salt near Earth's surface to cataclastic mechanisms in fault rocks to plastic flow of deep crust and mantle rock. The course will involve lectures, some in-class and take home problem sets, some local field exercises and field data analysis, classic and modern paper discussions, and a research term project (written and oral presentation).

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5120

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 3120 (minimum grade C-).

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

GEOL 4150 (2) Planetary Field Geology

Provides an overview of the geology, age and origins of the solid (rocky) planets, dwarf planets and moons of our solar system and the processes that form them from comparative studies from comparative geology. Includes modules on volcanism, rifting, aeolian processes, fluvial erosion, impacts, climate change and paleontology.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5150

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4160 (3) Introduction to Biogeochemistry

Covers fundamentals of biogeochemical cycling, emphasizing water, carbon and nutrient dynamics in terrestrial ecosystems; chemical interactions of atmosphere, biosphere, lithosphere and hydrosphere; natural and human-managed environments. Department enforced prerequisites: GEOL 3320 or EBIO 3270 and CHEM 1011.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: EBIO 4160 and ENVS 4160

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4185 (3) Geomicrobiology

Examines how microbial and chemical processes interact on the Earth's surface today and have shaped the planet throughout its history. Emphasis will be placed on how the life styles and chemical ingenuity of microorganisms drive key biogeochemical processes including weathering and transformations of carbon, oxygen, sulfur, iron and nitrogen. Towards this goal, major geologic and evolutionary events will be examined through the lens of microbial diversity, metabolic energetics, microbe-mineral interactions, and molecular biomarkers.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5185, ENVS 4185, and MCDB 4185

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1114 or CHEM 1400 and CHEM 1401 (minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisites GEOL 1180 or MCDB 1150 or GEOL 3320 or EBIO 3400 or ENVS 4160 or EVEN 4484.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

GEOL 4215 (2) Geochronology and Thermochronology

Constraining the timing of events and rates of processes is fundamental to earth science research. The field of geochronology and thermochronology is rapidly evolving. Cutting-edge aspects of geochronologic methods and emerging techniques will be especially emphasized. Lectures will emphasize the principles and assumptions of each technique. Seminar discussions will focus on recent papers that demonstrate state-of-the-art applications to diverse problems.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5215

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2001 and GEOL 2005 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4241 (4) Earth Surface Processes

Earth's surface is constantly reshaped by water, ice, wind, and life. This class investigates the earth's landscapes and the processes that modify them, both gradually by slow weathering and erosion, and abruptly through the action of floods, landslides, and other geologic events. We cover surface processes in hillslope, glacial, riverine, desert, and coastal environments. Upon completion of the course, students will have mastered knowledge about diverse surface processes and landforms and applied core geomorphic principles to a variety of landscapes. Students will also learn that understanding surface processes is important for managing natural hazards (e.g., landslides and floods). This course will draw from many disciplines, including geology, geography, physics, chemistry, and biology. The laboratory portion of the course will include quantitative problem solving and field trips to collect and analyze geomorphic data.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOG 4241

Requisites: Requires prereq crs GEOG 1011 or GEOL 1010 or 1020 or 1030 or 1040 or 1060 and APPM 1340 and 1345 or APPM 1350 or ECON 1088 or MATH 1081 or 1300 or 1310 (min grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Core Curr: Natural Science Non-Sequence
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4270 (3) Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry

Examines the chemical, biological, geological and physical processes affecting (and affected by) the chemistry of the oceans. Topics include: chemical cycling in seawater; the marine carbon cycle and its long-term control on atmospheric CO₂; the large-scale interdependence of nutrient distributions and biological productivity, chemical tracers of ocean circulation; the chemistry of marine sediments, including early diagenesis.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5270

Requisites: Restricted to students with 57-180 credits (Juniors or Seniors).

Recommended: Prerequisites introductory chemistry, introductory geology, introductory oceanography.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4330 (3) Cosmochemistry

Investigates chemical and isotopic data to understand the composition of the solar system: emphasis on the physical conditions in various objects, time scales for change, chemical and nuclear processes leading to change, observational constraints, and various models that attempt to describe the chemical state and history of cosmological objects in general and the early solar system in particular. Department enforced prerequisite: upper-division undergraduate standing in physical science and upper-division undergraduate chemistry or physics or math courses.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5330 and ASTR 4330 and ASTR 5330

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4341 (3) The Cryosphere: Earth's Icy Environments

Serves as an advanced introductory course in to the cryosphere for science majors. The course covers the nature of ice and the icy component of the Earth System, and how changing ice affects society. The course will not cover sea ice. Formerly offered as a special topics course.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5341

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4380 (3) Fundamentals of Stable Isotope Geochemistry

This course teaches students the fundamental principles of stable isotope fractionation during physical and biological processes, and the application of these behaviors to a wide range of important geologic questions. The course will use classic case studies from the geologic record to illustrate these principles.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5380

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 (minimum grade D-).

GEOL 4474 (4) Vertebrate Paleontology

Discusses the history and evolution of the vertebrates, including the phylogenetic relationships and evolutionary patterns of the major groups. Lab focuses on comparative vertebrate osteology and fossil representation of major groups. Department enforced prerequisites: GEOL 1020 and GEOL 3410 (or permission from the instructor).

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5474

Requisites: Restricted to students with 57-180 credits (Juniors or Seniors).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4611 (3) Organic Geochemistry

Explores the biomarker concept as a tool to elucidate microbial, biogeochemical, and climatic processes in natural systems through three fundamental goals: a) characterization and classification of organic molecules in complex, natural mixtures; b) biosynthesis, transport, transformation, preservation and destruction of organic matter in nature; c) application of lipid biomarkers and their stable isotope composition to study biological, biogeochemical, and climatic processes in modern and ancient systems.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5611

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of CHEM 1113 or CHEM 1400 (minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisite GEOL 3320 or GEOL 4270.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

GEOL 4660 (3) Sedimentology and Geobiology of Carbonates

Focuses on how carbonate sediments are formed, deposited, and lithified and what influences the preservation and alteration of textural and geochemical signals. We will cover facies identification, interpreting depositional environment, and carbonate geochemistry, with a particular emphasis on recent advances and unanswered questions at the intersection of carbonates and geobiology, including the role of microbial carbonate precipitation and/or dissolution in the formation and degradation of stromatolites, carbonate mud, ooids, etc.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5660

Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of GEOL 3430 (minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisites GEOL 3320, GEOL 4185.

GEOL 4670 (3) Isotope Geology

Introduces principles of stable and radiogenic isotope systematics in inorganic and organic geochemistry. Emphasizes application of isotope data to problems in igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary petrology, geobiochemistry, and petroleum genesis.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5670

Requisites: Requires prerequisite a course of MATH 1300 or APPM 1350 (minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4675 (3) Stable Isotopes in Paleoclimate and Paleoecology

Explores the use of stable isotope geochemistry for research questions in paleoclimatology and paleoecology. Covers physical and biological drivers of isotopic fractionation, systematics and applications of light elements such as carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, hydrogen, sulfur and boron and some less traditional isotopic systems. Applications include marine and terrestrial paleoclimate proxies and some uses for ecology and paleoecology.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5675

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4700 (1-4) Special Geological Topics

Studies in selected geological subjects of special current interest (for undergraduates).

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 9.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

Requisites: Restricted to students with 57-180 credits (Juniors or Seniors).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4711 (2) Igneous and Metamorphic Field Geology

Applies field techniques to interpretation of igneous and metamorphic rocks. Field exercises and lectures focus on collecting data required to map igneous and metamorphic rock units.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 3020 and GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2700 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4712 (2) Structural Field Geology

Explores methods of field study of structure of rocks, including observations, data collection and interpretation to understand geometry of deformation and causative processes and kinematics. Field projects are mapped using different scales, air photos, topographic maps and compass and tape.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3120 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4714 (2) Field Geophysics

Applies geophysical field techniques and data interpretation to studying geological and engineering problems. Fieldwork includes seismic, gravity, magnetic, and electrical measurements.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3330 and MATH 1300 and PHYS 1110 or PHYS 1115 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4715 (2) Field Techniques in Hydrogeology

Introduces various field techniques and data analysis methods in hydrogeologic studies for students in geology, environmental studies, geography, and civil engineering. Exercises include mapping ground water levels, conducting slug and pumping tests, measuring stream flows, interpreting aquifer parameters from geophysical measurements, and using field data for water budget analysis.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 3030 and GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2700 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab

GEOL 4716 (2) Environmental Field Geochemistry

This is a critical thinking course that makes use of field and laboratory environments. Students learn methods and develop hands-on expertise needed to identify, characterize and interpret the reactions that govern the quality of water in natural systems, through activities in local watersheds.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3320 and CHEM 1011 and CHEM 1031 or CHEM 1113 and CHEM 1133 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4717 (2) Field Seminar in Geology and Tectonics

Studies geologic features in and around Colorado to gain an overview of the geologic and tectonic evolution of the western U.S.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2001 or GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3120 or GEOL 3320 or GEOL 3430 or GEOL 4241 (all minimum grade D-).

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4719 (2) Field Analysis and Tectonics of Crystalline Rocks

Introduces basic and advanced mapping tools and concepts for structural and tectonic analysis of solid-state and magmatic deformation, metamorphism, and fluid flow in igneous and metamorphic rocks.

Includes some digital mapping concepts using smartpad and smartphone applications, and computer-based analysis of structure data. Includes multi-day mapping projects in the Front Range, and in western Colorado, southern Wyoming, or northern New Mexico. Also includes introductions to Precambrian tectonic history of western North America and mineral resources of Colorado.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5719

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3120 (all minimum grade D).

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

GEOL 4721 (2) Field Methods in Active Tectonics

Analysis of active geologic structures, including strike slip fault systems, secondary structures in stepovers and related eruptive centers. Includes the use of digital imagery, elevation models, offset geomorphic features and Quaternary deposits to determine local deformation rates and their relation to plate motions.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3120 (all minimum grade D-).

Recommended: Prerequisite GEOL 4712.

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sci Lab
Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4723 (2) Field Studies in Sedimentology

Provides students experience in observing and interpreting sedimentary rocks in the field. We will visit outcrops in CO and UT spanning a range of depositional environments, including eolian, lacustrine, fluvial, and marine. Developing observational and notetaking skills will be emphasized; students will be responsible for contributing to a group field guide based on their guided field observations at each site.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3430 (all minimum grade D-).

GEOL 4725 (1-4) Field Based Special Topics in Geoscience

Explores selected geological subjects of special interest in a field setting.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5725

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

Requisites: Restricted to students with 57-180 credits (Juniors or Seniors).

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Natural Sciences

GEOL 4747 (3) Unconventional Resources

To introduce the concepts, principles, methods, and techniques of unconventional reservoirs. Unconventional reservoirs can be defined informally as those reservoirs that need artificial stimulation to produce.

Accumulations in conventional traps are due to buoyancy. Seven common kinds of unconventional reservoirs: tight-gas sandstones, shale gas, shale oil, coal-bed methane, heavy-oil sands, oil shale, gas hydrates. Formerly offered as a special topics course.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5747

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3430 (all minimum grade D-).

GEOL 4755 (2) Field Geobiology

Provides students technical fieldwork skills in the interdisciplinary field of geobiology, spanning modern environments and to ancient environments in preserved in rock record, and spanning techniques from geochemistry, environmental microbiology, and sedimentology.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5755

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of GEOL 2700 and GEOL 3430 (all minimum grade C-).

GEOL 4840 (1-3) Independent Study in Geology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4841 (1-3) Independent Study-Economic Geology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4842 (1-3) Independent Study-Petrology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4843 (1-3) Independent Study-Sedimentology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4844 (1-3) Independent Study-Structure/Tectonics

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4845 (1-3) Ind Study-Geochemistry

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4846 (1-3) Independent Study-Geophysics

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4847 (1-3) Independent Study-Hydrology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4849 (1-3) Independent Study-Paleontology

Time and credit to be arranged. For advanced undergraduates who have high scholastic standing. Open only upon consultation with department advisor. May be repeated for a total of 7 credit hours.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4851 (1-3) Independent Study in Geoscience Education

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours.

GEOL 4862 (1-4) Geology Independent Study

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: GEOL 5862

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 7.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

Recommended: Prerequisite students may not enroll in this course without completing the Independent Study Contract.

GEOL 4990 (1-3) Honors Thesis

Supervised project involving original research in any area of the geological sciences. The thesis is submitted to the Honors Program of the College of Arts and Sciences and is orally defended. Must be accepted by the departmental honors committee. Department enforced prerequisite: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30.

Additional Information: Arts Sciences Honors Course