Instructor: Dr. Michael T. May, Professor of Geology
Office Hours: MWF 10:10-11:00, Tue/Thur 9:00-11:00 and by appointment
Office: Environmental Science & Technology (EST) Rm. 335 (Phone: 745-6891)
E-mail: michael.may@wku.edu; e-mail or come in person if you have questions!
Professor’s mailbox – Main office (EST 304)
Course Time and Place: Tuesday 12:45-2:45 pm in EST Room 420
Co-requisites: GEOL 111, Earth! (3 Credit Hours). Those students enrolled in GEOL 111 must also be
enrolled in GEOL 113 and cannot drop one without the other. There are rare exceptions to this as some
students may be taking the lab only or repeating the lab for example.

I. Design & Purpose of Course - Geology 113 (1 credit hr)

This is the laboratory portion of an introductory core course for geology majors and minors, prospective
science teachers, and students in allied sciences, engineering or other technical areas. The course (GEOL
111/113) provides an introduction to earth materials, dynamic external and internal earth processes, and
the relationships between human activity and the earth – and the lab represents the critical first-hand
experience portion necessary for you better understanding lecture topics. Students should quickly see the
value of being very well prepared for lab, as it will also aid in their preparation for the co-requisite 111
course.

Success in the lab depends most critically on student preparation. This is not a lecture. Students are
guided through exercises, activities, and projects by a lab facilitator, not a lecturer. Please understand the
difference. This means you will be required to read the manual prior to entry to lab each week (see
comments below also). It is the expectation on the part of the lab facilitator(s) (myself and a grad student
TA if one is available) that at the start of each lab there should be numerous questions based on reading
and answering questions. We will not begin each session by simply lecturing in detail what you should
have already read about prior to getting to lab.

This course fulfills the Category D general education requirement. It will help you attain these general
education goals and objectives: An understanding of the scientific method and a knowledge of natural
science and its relevance in our lives.

II. Manual (required) and Requirements

Please bring your manual to all labs and read the manual before attending lab. It is preferred that you get a
new lab manual. If a used one is purchased (not recommended) all the geotools (transparencies) and
structural geology block models should be present in the back of the manual as you will need for doing
work in at least three labs. Your instructor will point out page numbers to read the week prior to a given
lab. To encourage students to read the lab manual BEFORE the lab, a significant part of the lab grade
will be based on pre-lab preparation entailing reading and answering questions from the manual and on
unannounced, short quizzes and general participation.

III. Exams & Grades

A. There will be three quizzes that will count for 60 percent of your lab grade. Assignments will
constitute 30 percent of your final grade (approximately 2 percent per week) and short quizzes
(unannounced) based on reading the lab manual will constitute 10 percent of your final grade.

B. The grading scale will be as follows:
A= 90-100%
B= 80-89%
C= 70-79%
D= 60-69%
F= 59% or less.

IV. Attendance and Participation Policy

Attendance is required at all scheduled lab meetings. Non-attendance means a grade of zero for that lab. Pre-lab questions will be turned in before each lab starts and these will be counted as an assignment. If you are going to miss a lab because of personal issues (death, medical problem, job etc.) you must e-mail or call me prior to the lab start and upon return you must provide a written document or phone number through which I can verify your excused absence. An inexcusable absence means that you cannot make up the points for that lab but most importantly, you are missing out on critical information that will aid not only your lab grade but most probably your lecture grade as well in the co-requisite GEOL 111 course.

V. Schedule Change Policy

The Dept. of Geography and Geology strictly adheres to University policies regarding schedule changes. It is the responsibility of the student to meet all deadlines for drop/add etc. Only in exceptional cases will a deadline be waived (you would be required to fill out an appeal form). The form requires a written description of the extenuating circumstances involved and the attachment of appropriate documentation. Poor academic performance, general malaise, or undocumented general stress factors are not considered as legitimate circumstances.

For your convenience the policies for adding, dropping, changing schedule etc and associated fees are posted at:
http://www.wku.edu/Dept/Support/AcadAffairs/Registrar/spring/calendar.html
Additionally, Holidays are also at this web address for WKU Spring 2009.

VI. Make-Up Policy

In the event that a scheduled exam/quiz is missed, make-up quizzes will be scheduled only for those students presenting a valid, written excuse for their absence during the scheduled test period. It is your responsibility to contact your lab facilitator before the exam to make other arrangements. There will be no make-up exercises or pop quizzes for credit. If you have a legitimate excuse, the missed material will not be counted against you for the semester total number of points (i.e. you will have a lower total number of points versus other students).

VII. Miscellany

There is no food or drink permitted in the laboratory. EST is a smoke-free building.
** Cell phones should be turned off during lab! **
Please treat your colleagues and their desire to learn with appropriate respect.

Plagiarism - To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one’s own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be their own. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

Disposition of Offenses - Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the
act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal.

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, in the Student Success Center in DUC A201 (phone 745-5004). Testing for registered SDS students ONLY now is in TTY (phone 745-3030). Testing for other students will remain in DELO in Garrett Conference Center.

Pursuant to university policy, please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

GEOL 113 Earth! Lab

Purpose of Lab: Geology 113 (1 credit hour) is a laboratory course taken concurrently with Geology 111. The lab is an active, hands-on learning experience designed to complement the topics covered in Geology 111. The individual labs will cover: minerals, rocks, topographic and geologic maps, streams, groundwater, and geologic structures and if time permits, local geology.


Important: It is the responsibility of the student to obtain a lab manual and to read the appropriate chapter before coming to lab. Labs will be run with the understanding that students are prepared for the material. Problems from the manual will be assigned – to be turned in before the lab in question. There will also be pop quizzes based on pre-lab reading and assignments.

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<th>Week</th>
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<td>Classifications; Minerals</td>
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<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>Minerals - ID</td>
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<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>Minerals - ID</td>
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<td>Feb. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
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<td>Mar. 9-13</td>
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<td>Mar. 30</td>
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<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>Topo Maps and Streams</td>
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<td>Apr. 13</td>
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<td>Apr. 20</td>
<td>Local Geology cont./ Geologic Structures</td>
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<td>Apr. 27</td>
<td>Geologic Structures</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>Thursday, May 14 – 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Following Final Exam Schedule of classes meeting first at 12:45 on Tuesdays) - <strong>Geologic Map &amp; Topographic Map Quiz</strong></td>
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