**GEOLOGY 325 - Introduction to Minerals and Rocks**  
**Fall 2008**  
**9:30-10:05a EST 420**

**Professor** - Dr. Kenneth W. Kuehn a.k.a. ‘Dr. K’  
Office: EST Room 434,  
Office Hours: T,W,Th 2:30-4:30p. Other days and times by appointment.  
Contact: (270) 745-3082 kenneth.kuehn@wku.edu

**Course Description** - The sight identification of common minerals and rocks is stressed. The description, origin and classification, economic uses and occurrences of the major mineral and rock groups are discussed. Appropriate rock and mineral specimens are examined in the laboratory. There is a prerequisite of GEOL 102 or GEOL 111.

**Design & Purpose of Course** - Geology 325 (3 credit hours) expands the study of Earth materials to include their formation, their physical and chemical properties, and their role in contemporary science and society. This course is open to any student who meets the prerequisites, but it is a requirement for both the *Earth and Space Science* and *General Geoscience* options in the B.A. Geology degree program where it is taken in place of the GEOL 330 and GEOL 350 series.

This course will help you attain the following general goals and learning objectives:
- An understanding of the scientific method and principles of scientific classification
- An understanding of how rocks and minerals can affect health, well-being, and quality of life
- An appreciation for the varied roles and uses of rocks and minerals
- An ability to describe and identify unfamiliar rocks and minerals.

**Texts:**  *Laboratory Manual in Physical Geology*, AGI/NAGT, Prentice-Hall (required)  
Everyone must have an acceptable 10x hand lens. We will order these.

**Pre-class preparation** - Pre-class exercises may be assigned for some weeks this semester. In order to get the most from this course and to keep my lecturing to a minimum, you must read the text material and complete any assignments beforehand. At the beginning of each class, your pre-class assignment will be checked for completion.

**Attendance:** Mandatory. I will take roll promptly at the start of class. A participation bonus (worth 3% of the semester’s total points) will be added to the grade of those students who miss three or less class meetings throughout the semester. No point deductions will be taken due to missing a class. However, if you miss a class when there is a scheduled quiz or assignment due, it must be an ‘excused absence’ in order to make up that work. Excused absences are those that I can validate through an official note from a doctor, teacher, etc.
**Course Outline by the Week**

Aug. 25 – Course goals, Elements and Minerals

Sep. 2 – Mineral Origins and Classification
  8 - Common Rock-forming minerals
  15 - Common Rock-forming minerals
  22 - Ore deposits, Economic minerals
  29 – Crystallography

Oct. 6 - Crystallography, **Mineral Quiz (Friday, October 10)**
  13 - Rock Cycle, Igneous Rocks
  20 - Igneous Rocks
  27 - Sedimentary Rocks

Nov. 3 - Sedimentary Rocks
  10 - Sedimentary Rocks
  17 - Metamorphic Rocks
  24 - **Notebooks Due (Monday, November 24)**, Metamorphic Rocks

Dec. 1 - Review
  9 - **Rock Quiz (Tuesday, December 9, 8:00am)**

**Grading Policy:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mineral Quiz</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Quiz</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Grading:

- $\geq90\% = A$
- $80 - 89 = B$
- $70 - 79 = C$
- $60 - 69 = D$
- $<60\% = F$

You will store all class handouts and assignments in a three-ring binder. I will collect this binder and assess it from time to time at my discretion. I will provide you interim feedback on its neatness, completion, and quality. At the end of the course the graded exercises and assignments contained in your class notebook will constitute 40% of your grade as indicated above.
Schedule Change Policy:
The Department of Geography and Geology strictly adheres to University policies, procedures, and deadlines regarding student schedule changes. It is the sole responsibility of the student to meet all deadlines in regard to adding, dropping, or changing the status of a course. Only in exceptional cases will a deadline be waived. The Student Schedule Exception form is used to initiate all waivers. This 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.

The Learning Center (TLC) (in the top floor of the Student Success Center, DUC A-330):
Should you require academic assistance with this course, or any other General Education Course, there are several places that can provide you with help. TLC tutors in most major undergraduate subjects and course levels throughout the week. To make an appointment, or to request a tutor for a specific class, call 745-6254 or stop by DUC A330. Log on to TLC’s website at <http://www.wku.edu/tlc> to find out more. TLC hours: M,T,W,R 8am-9pm, Fri. 8am-4pm, Sat.-Closed, and Sundays 4pm-9pm.

Student Disability Services (SDS) (second floor of the Student Success Center, DUC A-200):
In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services. The phone number is 745-5004.

Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from your professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

Miscellany:
University policies, procedures, and deadlines will be followed in all matters without exception.

No food permitted in the lab; drinks with sealed lids only.