

**PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS**

**SPECIAL TOPICS IN GEOLOGY  
GEOL 1005**

**Class Hours:** 1 – 4

**Laboratory Hours:** 0 – 3

**Credit Hours:** 1 – 4

**Revised:** Spring 2017

**Catalog Course Description**

Topics offered will provide students opportunities for undergraduate research as well as extended coursework in areas of student interest and need.

**Prerequisites**

Consent of instructor.

**Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials**

Textbooks will vary, depending on the content and the instructor. Handouts or other material may be provided.

**Week/Unit/Topic Basis**

Activities will vary according to course content and may include lectures, discussions, field trips, laboratory experiments, essays, and term papers.

**Course Goals**

NOTE: Roman numerals after course goals reference TBR's general education goals.

The course will

- A. Develop an awareness of a particular aspect of geology. I.5
- B. Expand the student's understanding of technological advances in a particular aspect of geology. I.5, V
- C. Build critical thinking skills and problem solving skills to review and analyze information related to the selected topic. III.1, III.2
- D. Develop an appreciation of the societal issues involved with the special topic when appropriate. IV

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes**

NOTE: Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

The student will

- 1. Appraise basic and advanced facts associated with the selected topic. A
- 2. Identify practical applications and future implications of the selected topic. A, B

3. Explain the manner in which the special topic fits into the overall picture of geology. A
4. Recognize (depending on the course) appropriate principles, analyses, and technologies. B, C
5. Use discussions to evaluate the societal implications involved with the special topic. D.

## Evaluation

The specific evaluation methods will vary according to the course content. However, components of this will include written exams, participation in class activities, and written and oral reports. The details will be supplied by the instructor of the course on its syllabus.

### Grading Scale

90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
0 - 59	F

## Policies

### Attendance Policy

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of Academic Affairs, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of Academic Affairs.

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.

- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

Please see the Pellissippi State Policies and Procedures Manual, Policy 04:02:00 Academic/Classroom Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions for the complete policy.

#### Accommodations for Disabilities

Students that need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Disability Services (DS) in order to receive accommodations in this course. [Disability Services](#) (<http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/>) may be contacted via [Disability Services email](#) or by visiting Alexander 130.