ESC1000 Introduction to Earth Science (Online)
Fall 2024

General Education Designation: Natural Sciences - Physical Sciences (P) sub-designation
Click here for the state General Education Objectives https://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/subject-area-objectives/

A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit

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TAs: TBA

Textbook: *Earth Science* (eText) by *Tarbuck & Lutgens.* The cost is ~$44 includes *Mastering Geology* , which will be used for some graded activities. This book is NOT part of the UF All Access program, so you will not have access until you purchase it.

Course goals   Earth is dynamic planet that is continually being reshaped by forces generated within the solid earth, as well as by processes operating in the oceans, atmosphere, and biosphere (i.e. the Earth system). Using the scientific method, critical thinking skills, and data analysis, this course will examine the fundamental processes of the Earth system, composed of an atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and exosphere, through time. The course will also explore interactions between these spheres, including critical analysis of scientific theories and emphasize Earth's connections with humans.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will use critical thinking to recognize the rigorous standards of scientific theories

Students will analyze and synthesize Earth science data to draw scientifically valid conclusions

Students will recognize the different time scales associated with different Earth processes

Students will effectively describe interactions between humans and the Earth Spheres

Students will apply their understanding of Earth science principles to complex global and local issues

Specifics of course content & objectives
By clicking on the link for each module listed below you will find the following:
(1) an *overview* that provides a short description of what to expect regarding the content of the module
(2) A list of *objectives* for the module (the objectives are often quite broad)
(3) A *study guide* for the module that provides links to more detailed objectives that are organized by topics covered within each module. You will want to refer to the study guide to prepare for quizzes and exams.
(4) Links to all of the recorded *lectures.*
(5) Links to *quizzes* and any *assignments* included in the module.
(6) A list of readings from the textbook that go along with the content covered in the lectures, as well as supplemental resources that you may find interesting

Modules
Each module listed below is one week of class material
Module 1 Introductory concepts
Module 2A Earth materials
Module 2B Earth materials
Module 3A Plate tectonics
Module 3B Plate tectonics
Module 3B Plate tectonics
Module 4 Earthquakes
Module 5 Geologic time and dating
Module 6 Earth's resources
Module 7 Groundwater
Module 8 The oceans
Module 9A The atmosphere
Module 9B The atmosphere
Module 10A The solar system
Module 10B The solar system

Communications   Please contact instructors and TAs through regular email (NOT Canvas message/email please) as it is much easier to keep track of our conversations as threads can be continued. Emails are shown at the top of the syllabus. Throughout the semester, I will provide information to you through Canvas announcements. Be sure that you check announcements regularly and set up Canvas to have announcements delivered to you as emails as well.

Delivery of content
Content for the course will be delivered asynchronously mainly through recorded lectures that are available in Canvas. Additional material will be assigned as reading from the eText and interactive activities associated with the eText.

Graded activities

15%   Lecture-embedded (PlayPosit) questions
20%   Quizzes
20%   Assignments
45%   Exams (three non-cumulative worth 15% each)

**Note: there is no cumulative final exam during exam week*

Policies for late and missed work   The following is a list of penalties for late submissions. Exceptions to these policies will only be provided with fully documented excuses.
Quizzes: 25% for each day late (no submissions accepted after 48 hours past due date/time)
Assignments: 50% for each day late (no submissions accepted after 24 hours past due date/time)
Exams requires approved documentation submitted to the instructor ahead of time

Any technology issues encountered during online activities must be documented with screenshots of error messages, communications with UF Help desk, etc.*

For technical assistance within Canvas visit the UF Helpdesk or call 352-392-4357). For assistance and technical issues associated with the eText, use the help links within the Pearson site.

Description of graded activities (Goals and logistics of each of the activities are discussed below)

Lecture (PlayPosit) questions Within each lecture you will find several multiple-choice questions that are embedded in, and interspersed with recorded lectures. These are simple questions that are either (1) review of material covered immediately before the question or (2) forward-looking questions where you are asked to make a basic observation regarding a figure, table, etc. The forward-looking questions (referred to in the lectures as "Make an observation") are a prelude to material that will subsequently be covered in that lecture.

These questions are generally very simple and designed to keep you engaged throughout the lecture and to better remember the lecture material. You will not be able to proceed with viewing of the lecture until the question is answered. However, you may rewind to review the material before answering the question. These are simple questions and, given that you can review the material before answering, it is expected that you receive close to 100% for this portion of your course grade.

Quizzes Quizzes consist of ~10-25 multiple choice questions that cover the assigned material (generally from lectures). There will be one quiz every week that will be due Sunday evening. The quizzes are timed and you will have around one minute per question. Thus, there is time to look up a couple of questions, but not enough to expect to look up all of the material. Quizzes are provided through Canvas. Be sure that you have a secure internet connection and enough time before beginning each quiz.

Assignments - In contrast to the quizzes and lecture-embedded questions, which emphasis basic recall and understanding, the assignments will require you to apply the concepts, analyze data, and/or perform calculations. Thus, these require more advanced thinking than the quizzes and lecture questions. Therefore, the points from the assignments are not as easily earned as in those activities. Not every week/module has an assignment - there will be several scattered throughout the semester. The assignments will be available through the *Assignments* link on Canvas. After determining your answers, your final answers will be input via untimed Canvas quizzes.

Exams - These will be multiple choice exams delivered through Canvas. Exam content will focus on a specific subset of material to be specified in the clear lists of objectives from the study guides provided in Canvas. Thus, it will be helpful to be looking through the objectives and study guides while watching the lectures. The exams will be proctored through Honorlock and you will be given a time window during which you can take it anytime within that window (typically 8 am to 11 pm). Any additional information will be given through Canvas announcements.

Suggested approach for success in the course

(1) Look at the activities for the upcoming week (e.g., number/length of lectures, other activities beyond quizzes) so you can plan your week

(2) Read through objectives and study guides to get a sense of the focus of the material in the lectures

(3) Watch lectures and make notes in the study guides while watching the lectures

(4) Look through the study guides and be sure you have completed them

(5) Take the quiz with your completed study guides in hand

(6) Complete any assignments due for that material. Assignments are typically due after the quizzes, but you may find it more effective to at least work through the assignment prior to taking the quiz. Recall that not every module/week will have an assignment.

(7) Add additional notes to your study guides to incorporate material from the assignments. Some material in the assignments may not be covered on the quizzes

(8) Review your study guides prior to the exam. If your study guides are completed as you progress through the material, then the last couple days before the exams can be spent reinforcing the material, rather than learning it for the first time.

Grading scale

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A        90 - 100%
A-       88 - 90
B+       86 - 89
B        80 - 86
B-       78 - 80
C+       76 - 78
C        70 - 76
C-       68 - 70
D+       65 - 68
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NOTE: If you fall on a boundary (e.g., 80%), you will receive the higher grade (e.g., 80% = B)

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Minimum Technology Requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to their degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Broadband connection to the internet and related equipment (cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations that students should review before starting their program.

Minimum Technical Skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of operating a computer and using word processing software.

Materials/Supply Fees

There is no supply fee for this course.

Honorlock

Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows students to take exams 24/7. There are no scheduling requirements or fees.

You will need a laptop or desktop computer with a webcam, a microphone, and a photo ID. The webcam and microphone can be either integrated or external USB devices.

Honorlock requires you to use the Google Chrome browser and add the Honorlock extension to Chrome.

For further information, FAQs, and technical support, please visit HonorlockLinks to an external site..

Zoom

Zoom is an easy-to-use video conferencing service available to all UF students, faculty, and staff that allows for meetings of up to 100 participants.

You can find resources and help using Zoom at the [University of Florida's ZoomLinks to an external site.](#) website.

Course Policies

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found on [UF's Attendance PoliciesLinks to an external site.](#) website.

As this is an online class, you are responsible for observing all posted due dates and are encouraged to be self-directed and take responsibility for your learning.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ (https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/) . Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ (https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https- 3A_ ufl.bluera.comufl&d=DwMFAg&c=sJ6xIWYx- zLMB3EPkvcnVg&r=y2HjEMjRMHJhfdvLrqJZlYczRsfp5e4TfQjHuc5rVHg&m=WXko6OKHa6T00ZVAsEaSh 99qRXHOgMNFRywCoehRho&s=itVU46DDJnIg4CW6efJ . Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/ (https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public- results/)

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource CenterLinks to an external site.](#) (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter to be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the University of Florida community members, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct CodeLinks to an external site.](#) specify several behaviors that violate this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you must report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Plagiarism

The [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct CodeLinks to an external site.](#) state that:

"A Student must not represent as the Student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.
- Self-plagiarism is the reuse of the Student's own submitted work or the simultaneous submission of the Student's own work without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the Faculty to whom it is submitted.
- Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.
- Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the Student did not author."

Netiquette and Communication Courtesy

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is, in fact, a classroom, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette.

Security
• [General Guidelines](#)
• [Email](#)
• [Discussion Boards](#)
• [Zoom](#)

Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

- Don't share your password with anyone.
- Change your password if you think someone else might know it.
- Always log out when you are finished using the system.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties

For help with technical issues or difficulties with Canvas, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk at:

- [http://helpdesk.ufl.eduLinks to an external site.](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu)
- 352-392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups (assignments, exams, etc.) due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the UF Computing Help Desk when the problem was reported. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should email your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care**: If you or someone you know is in distress, please email umatter@ufl.edu, call 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter We CareLinks to an external site.](#) to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit the [UF Counseling & Wellness CenterLinks to an external site.](#) website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services and non-crisis services.

- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the UF Student Health Care CenterLinks to an external site. website.
- **University Police Department**: Visit the UF Police DepartmentLinks to an external site. website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608. Visit the UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma CenterLinks to an external site. website.

Academic and Student Support

- **Career Connections Center:** For career assistance and counseling services, visit the UF Career Connections CenterLinks to an external site. website or call 352-392-1601.
- **Library Support:** For various ways to receive assistance concerning using the libraries or finding resources, visit the UF George A. Smathers Libraries Ask-A-LibrarianLinks to an external site. website.
- **Teaching Center:** For general study skills and tutoring, visit the UF Teaching CenterLinks to an external site. website or call 352-392-2010.
- **Writing Studio:** For help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers, visit the University Writing Program Writing StudioLinks to an external site. website or call 352-846-1138.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback professionally and respectfully is available on the GatorEvals Providing Constructive FeedbackLinks to an external site. FAQ page. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. They can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via the GatorEvalsLinks to an external site. website. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students on the GatorEvals Public ResultsLinks to an external site. page. More information about UF's course evaluation system can be found at the GatorEvals Faculty EvaluationsLinks to an external site. website.

Tips for Success

Taking a course online can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of the online format:

General Tips for Success in an Online Course

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. A lot of helpful information can save you time and help you meet the course's objectives.
- Print out the Course Summary in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.
- Take full advantage of the online discussion boards. Ask for help or clarification of the material if you need it.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive, or through a cloud service.

Honorlock Online Proctoring

Course exams will be proctored to maintain a high academic integrity and assure that the value of your University of Florida degree is not compromised. Some students will take their exams online and will be proctored by Honorlock. You will take your exam electronically using the course website. You **do not** need to register for your exam. However, you will need to have installed and enabled the Google Chrome Honorlock extension before taking your exams. You will need a webcam, speakers, microphone, laptop or desktop computer, and a reliable internet connection to take your exams. Wireless internet is not recommended. You may also need a mirror or other reflective surface. Google Chrome is the only supported browser for taking exams in Canvas.

Before Your Exam

Before each exam and in the same environment you plan to take the exam, review the Honorlock Guidelines (Links to an external site.) (PDF), and go to Honorlock Support (Links to an external site.) to run a system check. This process takes just a few minutes and is completely free. If your course offers an Honorlock Practice Quiz, it is strongly recommended that you take it to practice using Honorlock before your exams.

Important: If you cannot take an exam because of a technical glitch on your end, that is your responsibility. However, if you experience technical difficulties during the exam, Honorlock's support menu will be visible on-screen so you can contact a support agent.

Getting Help

Honorlock offers 24/7/365 technical support to assist students before, during, and after exams. If you experience trouble with Honorlock, begin a live chat on the Honorlock Support (Links to an external site.) page, call 844-243-2500, or email Support@Honorlock.com.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Adobe
    - Adobe Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - Adobe AccessibilityLinks to an external site.

- Honorlock
    - Honorlock Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - Honorlock AccessibilityLinks to an external site.
- Instructure (Canvas)
    - Instructure Privacy Policy
    - Instructure Accessibility
- Microsoft
    - Microsoft Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - Microsoft AccessibilityLinks to an external site.
- PlayPosit
    - PlayPosit Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - PlayPosit AccessibilityLinks to an external site.
- YouTube (Google)
    - YouTube (Google) Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - YouTube (Google) AccessibilityLinks to an external site.

- Zoom
    - Zoom Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.
    - Zoom AccessibilityLinks to an external site.