Orientation Letter for GEOLOGY 101 CRN 14555

Instructor: Molly Zorba

Day/Time/Place: 100% online for 8 weeks from 2/9-4/15

Office: CCC Quad 507 M & W 12:30-1:30
E-mail: molly.zorba@canyons.edu or pzorba@roadrunner.com Best way to contact me. I will respond to email within 24-48 hours. (Please put your name, class, and crn in subject heading)

Welcome to Physical Geology (GEOL 101)! This is a 100% online class. There will no on-ground class meetings. Thus, you must be computer-literate, have regular access to the Internet, a good web browser (Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are recommended), and be comfortable communicating using e-mail and blackboard online tools.

Required Text:

Textbook available at campus bookstore, or online at http://coc.bncollege.com
Textbook website: http://wiley.com/college/murck (E-text book is an option)

• Textbook is a requirement as the book will be your main source of course content will be needed to answer discussion board questions, activities, and studying for quizzes and exams that you will be taking on-line throughout the semester in this class.

Blackboard Login.
http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/Blackboard.aspx
If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard, you will want to become familiar with the information on Blackboard at the Distance Learning website: https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_SP_12_and_SP_13/Student or https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLontYaReEU1seUE3ACG3sEc3zR7Br7URU

There is also some Blackboard support available at the College of the Canyons TLC (The Learning Center), or by calling them at 661.362.3344 (Monday - Thursday 8:15am – 7:45pm, Friday & Saturday - 9:15am – 12:45pm)

Online courses require more time and effort than traditional, on-ground courses. You will be expected to be self-motivated. Because this class is a 3-unit science and in a short-term format (8 weeks) you should plan on this course taking at least 15 hours each week of your time.
Course Description:
This course is an introduction to Physical Geology in an online format. It explores the basic features of the exterior and interior of the Earth’s crust, the materials of which those features are composed, and the geologic processes which produce them. It includes specific consideration of minerals, rocks, volcanic activity, running water and erosion, soils, ground water, mass wasting, glaciation, coastlines, wind activity, deserts, plate tectonics, mountains, faults, earthquakes, metamorphism, and geologic time.

Timelines and Assessment Guidelines
• **Review all learning content each week**
  There will be assigned chapter readings from your textbook, and online resources such as power point presentations. Course material will be discussed via discussion board.
• **Collaboration**
  There will be class discussion board activities for this course each week. You will be expected to participate in these activities. Therefore, if you miss ANY class discussion board activities you will NOT be allowed to make-up these assignments.
• **Assessment**
  The class will be broken into 4 units. Thus, There will be 8 homework assignments (1 due for each week), ~4 quizzes (multiple choice format) and four (4) exams given in this course. Homework assignments will need to be turned by Saturday at 11:59 pm of each week. NO late homework will be accepted. Quizzes will be given every other week and must be taken by Saturday at 11:59 pm of each week they are assigned. NO quiz make-ups will be allowed. Each exam covers material since the last exam (i.e. not cumulative). Each exam will consist of both multiple choice and free-response/essay question types. You are responsible for taking each quiz and exam by its due date. Time allowed for each quiz will be 15 minutes. Time allowed for each exam will be 1 hour and 20 minutes

More information about this course showing class policies, readings course power points, schedule, grading, assignments, quizzes, and test dates are detailed in the course syllabus, which you will find when you log into Blackboard for this course.

I’m excited for you to have a better understanding of the world you live in, and to be as excited about our Earth’s formations and its processes as I am!

If you should have any questions about the course, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will respond to email usually within 24 hours. (Its best if you include your full name, the class, and the section number in your emails).

**Molly Zorba**
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