# VALENCIA COLLEGE

# DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

# WEST CAMPUS

# EARTH SCIENCE; ESC1000-SPRING 2020

# 3 Credits

# CRN 21053/21149 Online

Professor: Annie Palya

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## Required Text:

1. *Foundations of Earth Science, 8th Edition.* By Lutgens, Tarbuck and Tasa
2. Modified Mastering Geology Instant Access (for Foundations of Earth Science, 8th Edition)

\*\*\*NOTE: The textbook and Mastering access code can be purchased together (with text in physical or digital format) or the access code can be purchased separately if you already have the text or plan to search for used copy. All items can be purchased from the Valencia bookstore or the Pearson publishing website.\*\*\*

## Course Contents

* Introduction to Earth Science
* Matter and Minerals
* Rocks; Materials of the Solid Earth
* Weathering, Soil, and Mass Wasting
* Running Water and Groundwater
* Plate Tectonics
* Earthquakes and Earth’s Interior
* Volcanoes and Igneous Activity
* Crustal Deformation
* Geologic Time
* Ocean Floor
* Ocean Water and Ocean Life
* The Atmosphere
* Weather Patterns and Severe Storms

## Course Objectives:

1. Students will be able to recognize and interpret earth science concepts and processes that have shaped our planet.
2. Students will recognize that Earth is a complex systems of interacting rock, water, are and life.
3. To better understand the process of scientific inquiry/research and be able to evaluate scientific based claims versus opinions given by media outlets.

**Course assignments will be posted, submitted and graded using the** **Canvas** **utility**, which can be accessed through the Course Homepage on the Atlas website. From the course homepage, select the “Online Course Login” link, which will direct you to the Canvas website.

## Things I will post on Canvas:

* Announcements
* Assignments
* Lecture PowerPoints
* Exams/Quizzes
* Grades

If you do not have a computer, please make sure you learn the locations and hours of operation of the student computer labs on campus.

If you have difficulty accessing Blackboard or Atlas, or have other general computer problems, contact the Valencia IT Help Desk at **407-582-5444**.

## CHECK CANVAS FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS REGULARLY!

(Remember, you are responsible for ensuring that you receive all information relating to this course!)

## Grading:

Assignments: 30%

Exams: 40%

Quizzes: 30%

## Grading Scale:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

## Tests:

Tests are the largest portion of your grade (40%) and consist of 3 tests. These exams include multiple choice, matching, and/or true-false questions. **Exams cannot be made up!**  If you have a conflict with one of the scheduled exams, you can take the exam early. **They can be taken early, but not late!** The exams are **non-cumulative.** Check the course schedule to see which chapters are covered for each exam.

## Quizzes:

Three quizzes (30% of your grade) will be given throughout the semester (check course schedule for dates). The purpose of the quizzes is to keep you up-to-date on course concepts/information and give you some needed practice (as many of the quiz questions will be part of your 3 exams).

## Assignments:

Approximately 14 homework assignments will be given throughout the semester intended to augment your understanding of a topic (30% of your grade). You must register with Pearson after you purchase access to Mastering Geology (see student registration instructions in syllabus). Pearson provides a 2-week free trial for the Mastering Geology assignments so please take advantage and start your homework right away! These assignments must be completed on time. See the course schedule for specific due dates for the online Mastering Geology homework. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON SUNDAY NIGHTS. (EXCEPTION: THIRD/FINAL EXAM IS DUE SATURDAY, APRIL 25th).** If you do not complete the homework before the due date, you will receive no credit for the work. Please finish the assignments completely in one sitting. The Pearson online system will not allow you to come back and finish a homework that was started at an earlier time. **Please note, when you finish an assignment on the Pearson website, it takes a few hours for Canvas to update the grades in your gradebook.** Please wait at least one day before contacting me about a grade discrepancy.

## Extra Credit

There will be no extra credit opportunities given in an online course.

## Attendance Policy

If you do not complete any assignments by the end of the “No Show Reporting Period” (January 23rd), you will be withdrawn from the course.

## \*\*\* Important Dates \*\*\*

Drop Deadline: January 13th at 11:59 PM

No Show Reporting Period: January 14th – 23rd

Withdrawal (“W” Grade) Deadline: March 20th at 11:59 PM

Final Exam Due Date: April 25th

## Student-Instructor Communication:

I will use the Canvaswebpage for extensively during the semester. I have no problem answering emails, however:

### THINK BEFORE EMAILING!!

1. for logistical questions **please look first at the syllabus**, etc. before e-mailing
2. for material questions - try to limit to short answer questions
3. If you do not get a reply in a couple of days, please do not hesitate to resend your email. Do not expect me to check email during the evening before or morning of an examination.
4. **DON’T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!!!**

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## CHECK CANVAS FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS REGULARLY!

(Remember, you are responsible for ensuring that you receive all information relating to this course!)

American Disabilities Act (ADA):Valencia College is committed to providing an educational environment that is accessible to all students. In accordance with this commitment, students with documented disabilities who may need academic adjustments or auxiliary aids or service for this course are required to contact the Office for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible after admission to the University, or at the beginning of each academic semester.

Statement of inclusion:In this course, diversity and inclusion are essential to the fulfillment of the course objectives. During the classroom sessions, and through forms of communication e.g. blogs, emails, discussions, etc., the maintained community must be respectful to all persons in spite of difference in age, citizenship, ethnicity, race, nationality, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, language, religious beliefs, philosophical beliefs, or socioeconomic status. In this course, students should expect open, respectful communication, opportunities to learn other perspectives and a classroom environment that facilitates equality, fairness and an appreciation for diverse thoughts and contributions.

## Special needs:

Any issues requiring special consideration (child/family care, work, etc.) should be addressed at the beginning of the semester.

## Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated (Policy Number: 6Hx28:10-16).

Penalties for plagiarism or cheating include any or all of the following:

* loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project;
* reduction in the course grade;
* a grade of "F" in the course.
* warning, probation, suspension, and/or expulsion from the college
* See <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-11-Academic-Dishonesty.pdf> for more details on the Academic Dishonesty policy.

Grievance Policy for Science Department**:**

[Grievance Policy](http://valenciacollege.edu/students/disputes/)

<http://valenciacollege.edu/students/disputes/>

## Student Feedback on Instruction (SFI)

Each term students taking courses are asked to complete the electronic Student Feedback on Instruction survey to let us know more about their experiences. It is used at Valencia by faculty members to improve the teaching and learning experience. Faculty cannot access your student feedback until after final grades are posted.  Through [this link](http://valenciacollege.edu/academic-affairs/institutional-effectiveness-planning/institutional-assessment/saicc/SFIFrequentlyAskedQuestions.cfm) you can find answers to other commonly asked questions about the SFI.

[http://valenciacollege.edu/academic-affairs/institutional-effectiveness-planning/institutional-assessment/saicc/SFIFrequentlyAskedQuestions.cfm](https://webmail.valenciacollege.edu/owa/redir.aspx?REF=ZoCHF8u4LEMHjNN3mxN8Bm5BczFVXKCgTTZoyVvkqMk04pN8jgfWCAFodHRwOi8vdmFsZW5jaWFjb2xsZWdlLmVkdS9hY2FkZW1pYy1hZmZhaXJzL2luc3RpdHV0aW9uYWwtZWZmZWN0aXZlbmVzcy1wbGFubmluZy9pbnN0aXR1dGlvbmFsLWFzc2Vzc21lbnQvc2FpY2MvU0ZJRnJlcXVlbnRseUFza2VkUXVlc3Rpb25zLmNmbQ..)

## Valencia College Core Competencies

“The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:

1. **Think**- think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry

2. **Value**- make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments

3. **Communicate**- communicate with different audiences using varied means

4. **Act**- act purposefully, effectively and responsibly.”

## Valencia College Student Code of Conduct:

[Student Code of Conduct](http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-03-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf)

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Valencia College Title IX Statement:

[Title IX Statement](https://valenciacollege.edu/hr/title-ix/policy.cfm)

<https://valenciacollege.edu/hr/title-ix/policy.cfm>

Valencia College FERPA Policy:

[FERPA Policy](http://valenciacollege.edu/ferpa/)

<http://valenciacollege.edu/ferpa/>

Valencia College Student Assistance Program information:

[Student Assistance Program](http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/studentservices/baycarestudentassistanceservices/)

<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/studentservices/baycarestudentassistanceservices/>

“*Valencia is committed to making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience.  To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work.  Students have 24 hour unlimited access to the****BayCare Behavioral Health’s confidential student assistance program****phone counseling services by calling****(800) 878-5470****.  Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students.”*

## Additional Student Support

*Any student who has difficulty accessing sufficient food to eat, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect his or her performance in the course, is urged to meet with a Counselor in the Advising Center for information about resources that may be available from the college or community.*

Always remember: **You are paying for this class, so make sure and get your money’s worth!**

## DISCLAIMER

**Changes in the syllabus and/or schedule may be made at any time during the term by announcement of the professor. It is your responsibility to stay informed of any changes.**