**Earth Science**

**Fall 2018**

**CRN: 32072**

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Professor**: Mary Beck

**Email**: mbeck2@valenciacollege.edu **Phone**: 407-582-1882

**Office**: Rm. 1-227 (West) **Office Hours**:

      9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday in West 1-227 or 1-228

      10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Tuesday and Thursday, online

      11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Friday, online

      No office hours on weekends or holidays.

**Class meeting times:** Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. (2.75 hours/week)

**Class meeting location:** West campus, 1-228

**Credit Hours earned upon passing:** 3 credit hours

**Prerequisite(s) and Co-requisite(s):** None

**Course Description:** Study of earth science with emphasis on geology. Additional topics selected from astronomy, oceanography and meteorology. Emphasis on Florida.

**Refund of Fees:** The drop deadline for receiving full refund of tuition and fees is 9/4/2018 at 11:59 pm.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

**Textbook:** The ***required*** text for this course is the electronic textbook, *The Good Earth: Introduction to Earth,* 4th edition, by David McConnell, et.al. McGraw Hill Higher Education, 2018. You will be using this text in conjunction with McGraw Hill’s *CourseConnect*, which delivers your course assignments through Canvas. The ISBN # for the e-text and *CourseConnect* is: ISBN: 9781259933936. The access code for your e-text and Connect is available through the West Campus bookstore or you can purchase it directly online through the publisher. (If you have financial aid, you will need to buy your access code through the bookstore. Otherwise, financial aid may not cover your book costs.) The e-text and Connect are required for this course and all of your assignments and assessments are accessed through Connect. You cannot pass this class without access to these materials!

The McGraw Hill course link for this class is:[http://connect.mheducation.com/class/m-beck-copy-of-earth-science-f18---wednesday (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.](http://connect.mheducation.com/class/m-beck-copy-of-earth-science-f18---wednesday)

**Canvas Access:** Access to Canvas (and McGraw Hill Connect) is **REQUIRED** for this course! The course website can be accessed by logging on to <https://online.valenciacollege.edu/>.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

This semester we will have several learning objectives. They are as follows:

1. Students will be able to recognize and interpret earth science concepts and processes, and to predict probable outcomes of these
2. Students will acquire knowledge of science and its effects on human
3. Students will be able to evaluate scientific information in the news
4. Students will develop the capacity for critical thinking and independent
5. Students will develop analytical skills to make sound qualitative and quantitative judgments.

**STUDENT CORE COMPETENCIES**

This course seeks to reinforce the following Valencia Student Competencies:

* **Think** clearly, critically and creatively by analyzing, synthesizing, integrating and evaluating
* Evaluate your own and others’ **values** from individual, cultural and global perspectives.
* **Communicate** by reading, listening, writing and speaking
* **Act** purposely, reflectively and responsibly by implementing effective problem solving and decision making
* Understand and use quantitative

**ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The academic policies and procedures for this course follow those established for Valencia Community College. You can access this information by selecting this link: <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/current/>. Please note that each student is responsible for knowing and adhering to the policies and requirements that affect them.

**Withdrawal Policy/Date**

Per Valencia Policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals), a student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadline of 11/9/2018 will receive a grade of “W.” A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A faculty member MAY withdraw a student up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy. A student who is withdrawn by faculty for violation of the class attendance policy will receive a grade of “W.” Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of “F.” For a complete policy and procedure overview on Valencia Policy 4-07 please go to:

<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/academicpoliciesprocedures/courseattemptscoursewithdrawal/>

**Course Attempts/Course Withdrawal**

Agencies and organizations which provide financial assistance/scholarships (federal and state government, businesses, etc.) may have requirements relative to withdrawal, course repeats and grade forgiveness which are more stringent than those described below. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).

According to State Rule 6A-14.0301, you may attempt the same course only three times at Valencia including the original grade, repeat grades and withdrawals at any point in the term. Students in Bachelor’s degree programs are limited to two attempts. The same course usually means the subject prefix and course number are the same when posted on a Valencia transcript. Courses that have been deemed equivalent will all count as attempts even if the current course number is not the same as your previous attempt(s). Being enrolled in a course for credit beyond the Drop/Refund Deadline counts as an attempt. The Drop/Refund Deadline for each term is listed in the Academic Calendar in the online official catalog. (9/4/2018 at 11:59 pm.)

**Notice to Students Seeking to Withdraw from a Course(s)**

Before you withdraw from a course, you should be aware that course withdrawals:

* Will increase the cost of your education
* May affect your financial aid status
* May affect your transfer grade point average
* May result in your having to pay the full cost of instruction fee to retake the course
* May affect your anticipated graduation date
* May result in your being denied access to limited access programs
* May affect your eligibility for the Honors Program
* May affect your immigration status if you are attending Valencia on a nonimmigrant visa
* Will result in your required repayment of course fees paid by a Bright Futures scholarship.

To withdraw from a course(s) you must access registration on Atlas. The Withdrawal Deadlines for each term are published in the Academic Calendar in the online official catalog. All requests for withdrawals must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the Withdrawal Deadline date. (11/9/2018)

**Before you withdraw:**

* Talk with your professor to discuss your progress in the course
* See a Student Services staff member to discuss how a withdrawal will affect your career and education plans and/or the status of your financial aid

**Conditions That Apply to a First or Second Attempt in a Course**

On or Before the Withdrawal Deadline:

During a first or second attempt in the same course at Valencia, if you withdraw, or are withdrawn by the professor, you will receive a W (Withdrawn). You will not receive credit for the course, and the W will not be calculated in your grade point average; however, the enrollment will count in your total attempts in the specific course.

Following withdrawal, you may, with the professor’s approval, continue to attend the course for the remainder of the term.

After the Withdrawal Deadline:

A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A professor may withdraw you up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy, as published in the faculty member's syllabus, in which case you will receive a grade of “W”. If the professor does not withdraw you, your grade will be what you had earned.

**Use of Electronic Equipment in the Classroom**

Please do not text, make or receive calls, tweet, etc. during class time. (If you need to monitor calls or a beeper, please talk to me before class.) Let your friends and family know that you are in class on Wednesday between 10:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. and to please contact you at times other than this. Disruptions and distractions due to late arrivals, cell phones ringing, people texting, and other activity that is not related to classroom activities and assignments wastes the class time and your time. Much of your class time will be spent working with your fellow students. Please limit your use of electronic devices to things that are related to the work you are doing. You are paying for this class and you have every right to expect that your time is well-used.

**Student Conduct**

Valencia College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty member to leave the class. Violation of any classroom or Valencia College rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

**Academic Honesty (Policy Number: 6Hx28:10-16)**

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive. Students shall take special notice that the assignment of course grades is the responsibility of the student's individual professor.

When the professor has reason to believe that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred, and before sanctions are imposed, the student shall be given informal notice and an opportunity to be heard by the professor. Any student determined by the professor to have been guilty of engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to a range of academic penalties as determined by the professor. These penalties may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

* loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project;
* reduction in the course grade;
* or a grade of "F" in the course.

At the option of the professor, the appropriate administrator of the campus may be furnished with written notification of the occurrence and the action taken. If such written notice is given, a copy shall be provided to the student. Students guilty of engaging in a gross or flagrant act of academic dishonesty or repeated instances of academic dishonesty shall also be subject to administrative and/or disciplinary penalties that may include warning, probation, suspension, and/or expulsion from the college.

**GRADING**

The final grade will be determined by the following system:

**Methods of Evaluation / Percent of Grade**

Learn Smart exercises = 10%

Practice Quizzes = 10%

Homework = 10%

Chapter Tests = 10%

In-Class Work = 40%

*Total Points* = 100 %

**Grading Scale**

A = 90-100 %

B = 80-89 %

C = 70-79 %

D = 60-69 %

F = Below 60%

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Your responsibilities in this class include completion of:

1. Chapter exercises **due before class meets** *(found in the left-hand course menu “Modules” page)*
	* Learn Smart exercises
	* Practice Quizzes
	* Homework
2. Weekly tests focusing on chapter material
3. Individual and group in-class activities

The preparatory assignments (Learn Smart, Practice Quiz, Homework) for each week must be completed before class. There is no credit for late work, as the idea is for you to do the reading and assignments as preparation for what we do in class. These assignments make up 30% of you grade, so it is essential that you complete these assignments in order to receive a passing grade in this class!

**PLEASE NOTE**: Some deadlines are for more than one chapter of work (Chapters 1-2, Chapters 9-10, Chapters 16-17). Make sure you check the calendar in Canvas to see what is due for each week. This course covers 16 of the 17 chapters of your textbook that can be accessed by selecting the left- hand course menu *McGraw Hill* link. There is a module for each chapter and projected due dates for preparatory assignments.

All of the assignments and tests for the course are available from the first day. You can work ahead and complete the course work early. **However**, **there are no make-up or extra credit assignments and work must be completed by the deadline in order to receive credit for your work**.

**COURSE COMPONENTS**

**1.   PowerPoint Presentation**

Each Canvas chapter module begins with a PowerPoint presentation that allows you to review selected “Checkpoint Questions” from your textbook, as well as other questions that will help you to self-assess your conceptual understanding of the chapter material. These presentations are set up so that when you view them in Slide Show mode, the answers to the questions will be presented as you advance the slide show. I encourage you to view these presentations and to attempt to answer the questions before you advance the presentation slides to the answers. PowerPoint presentations are not graded and do not count towards your final grade.

**2.    Learn Smart Exercises (Preparatory Assignment)**

Each chapter module in Canvas includes a Learn Smart exercise. These exercises are a series of questions based on the material for that chapter in your textbook. Learn Smart exercises are due before class begins on the day we cover that chapter. These exercises are set up so that you can return to the exercise and answer the questions over and over again, up until the completion deadline for the exercise. If you answer a question incorrectly, Learn Smart reconfigures the remaining questions so that you will be retested on that concept. Each of the Learn Smart exercises are worth 100 points and count as 20% of your overall grade.

The due dates can be found on the Calendar and with the link to the exercise itself. Learn Smart exercise scores will be available after the submission deadline and can be accessed by checking your “Grades” page in Canvas. If you miss a Learn Smart exercise (with a score of zero for that exercise) or if you do not continue to work with the problems until you score 100%, you score will drop accordingly. You may not make-up any Learn Smart exercise.

**3.   Practice Quizzes (Preparatory Assignment)**

Each chapter also includes Practice Quiz exercises. The Canvas course page has a link to the practice quiz for each week. Similar to the Learn Smart questions, you can retake these quizzes until you score 100%, up until the deadline (start of class). Each time you retake the quiz, the answers to the questions will be randomly re-arranged and you start at the beginning of the quiz. You are allowed to access the e-text while working on the questions but no hints are available. These exercises are worth a variable amount of points and are 10% of your grade.  You may not make-up any Practice Quiz exercise.

**4.   Homework (Preparatory Assignment)**

You will be completing homework exercises each week. These exercises are based on the Checkpoint exercises in your textbook and are accessed through Canvas. You are allowed an unlimited number of attempts for each homework question, up until the deadline (start of class). With each new attempt, you start at the beginning of the exercise. You are allowed to access the e-text while working on the questions and there is no penalty for accessing a hint (if available) before answering the question. There is no time limit on homework questions. Homework assignments are worth variable points, based on the number of questions, and are 10% your final grade. You may not make-up any Homework exercise.

**5.  In-Class Activities**

During class, we will spend much of our time going over ideas from your text, working on discussion questions, and completing hands-on activities. Some of these activities will be graded individually but most will be group graded. You must be present in order to receive credit for in-class activities. Additionally, **if you miss any part of an in-class activity, you will receive half credit for the exercise**. These activities are worth variable amount of points and make up 40% of your final grade.

**6. Tests**

You will be completing an online chapter test (through Connect) on the information for each chapter. Each test must be completed by the deadline. Tests deadlines are set for one week after the related chapter homework and in-class work was due. Each test will include 20 multiple choice and true/false questions. The tests have no time limit and you will be given a second attempt at each test, if needed. On a second attempt, you will be asked to retake the test and there will be a 5% reduction in your overall score. Each test must be completed before the start of class on the deadline date for that quiz. Results from tests will become available 1 hour after the test deadline. Chapter tests are each worth 200 points and count as 30% of your grade.

The **final exam** will be an in-class exam that will cover the climate chapters (16 and 17). This will be a group exam and will be similar to discussion and group questions completed as In-Class Activities. This score will be included in your test scores and will be part of the 30% that makes up that part of your grade.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Valencia policy is that students who miss the final exam will receive a “F” for the course. As the Chapters 16 and 17 serve as your final exam, if you miss this test, you will automatically receive a “F” for the course! If you arrive late for the final exam or miss any part of the final exam, you will receive half credit for the exam!

**Canvas Component**

You will be using Canvas to access your online exams, quizzes, and assignments. If you do not presently have a computer, the Learning Resources Centers have computers available for you to use. If you are unfamiliar with Canvas and would like to check out Valencia’s online support page for Canvas, go to <http://valenciacollege.edu/oit/learning-technology-services/student-resources/>.

If you follow this link, it will take you to the Valencia Online – Student Resources page with important information, such as: 1) “Canvas 101”, an introduction to Canvas, 2) “Am I ready for Online?”, 3) links to view free tutorials, 4) internet requirements for online learning at Valencia, and many other topics. Please check out this site.

Once you are in Canvas, you can also select the “Help” link to contact your instructor, a Canvas support person, or to search the Canvas guides. If you have difficulty accessing Canvas on your computer or difficulty opening different pages on the class website, you can 1) contact Student Help at 407-582-5555 or 2) send an email to: oithelp@valenciacollege.edu.

If you experience problems with Canvas, try these above options immediately. If use of these options fails to take care of the problem, contact me as soon as possible. You are responsible for insuring that you receive all and any information relating to this course!

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

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.

Valencia College has contracted with BayCare, a private and confidential counseling service, to provide short-term assistance to students who need to resolve problems that are affecting their college performance. Examples might include: stress, relationship/family issues, alcohol/drug problems, eating disorders, depression, and gender issues. Students who are experiencing any of these issues should call the BayCare toll-free number **1-800-878-5470** to speak to a professional counselor. If needed, the counselor may refer the student to appropriate resources or to speak face-to-face with a licensed counselor.

**Note: The instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus and/or course outline.**