**Earth Science Online**

**Fall 2018**

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Professor**: Mary Beck

**Email**: [mbeck2@valenciacollege.edu](mailto:mbeck2@valenciacc.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:** This course is entirely online. There are not assigned meeting times or locations.

**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!

**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.

**GRADING**

The final grade will be determined by the following system:

**Methods of Evaluation / Percent of Grade**

Learn Smart exercises = 20%

Practice Quizzes = 20%

Homework = 20%

Chapter Tests = 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 on Saturdays** *(found in the left-hand course menu “Modules” page)*
   * Learn Smart exercises
   * Practice Quizzes
   * Homework
2. Chapter tests **due on Saturdays** *(found in the left-hand course menu “Modules” page)*

All course exercises, tests, email and grading notifications can done through the Canvas webpage for this course at <https://online.valenciacollege.edu/>. This course is based on 16 of the 17 chapters of your textbook and can be accessed by selecting the left-hand course menu*, “McGraw Hill Connect”* link. Links to all of the activities can be found both by selecting “Modules” in Canvas or through the homepage in Connect. Please check your email and your Canvas course regularly for any changes, notices, or updates for the course.

**PLEASE NOTE**: Some deadlines are for more than one chapter of work (Chapter 1-2-4, Chapters 16-17). For the first week, no work is due, but **3** chapters (1-2-4) are due on the next Saturday. This is to give you a little extra time to become familiar with Canvas and Connect. Make sure you check the calendar in Canvas to see what is due each Saturday.

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**

The due dates for all exercises and tests can be found on the Calendar in Canvas and beside the link to the exercise or test itself in either Canvas or Connect. Scores will be available after the submission deadline and can be accessed by checking your “Grades” page in Canvas.

**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**

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. 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.

Each Learn Smart exercise must be completed by midnight of the deadline date for that chapter. 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**

Each module in Canvas also includes Practice Quiz exercises. Each chapter has a link to a practice quiz. Similar to the Learn Smart questions, you can retake these quizzes until you score 100%, up until the midnight deadline. 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 20% of your grade.  You may not make-up any Practice Quiz exercise.

**4.   Homework**

You will be completing homework exercises for each chapter. These exercises are based on the Checkpoint exercises in your textbook and are accessed the Canvas chapter module. You are allowed an unlimited number of attempts for each homework question, up until the midnight deadline. 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 20% your final grade. You may not make-up any Homework exercise.

**5.   Tests**

You will be completing a test on the information in each chapter. The tests 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 by midnight of 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 40% of your grade. **Chapters 16 and 17 tests counts as your final exam for the course.**

PLEASE NOTE: Valencia policy is that students who miss the final exam will receive a “F” for the course. As chapters 16  and 17 tests serves as your final exam, if you miss them, you will automatically receive a “F” for the course!

**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](mailto:oithelp@valenciacc.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.**