

GLY 1150L – Florida Geology
Fall 2015 –Williamson 141
Section 2342 (Thursday 10:40am - 12:35pm)
Section 2343 (Friday 11:45am – 1:40pm)

INSTRUCTOR: LANIE MERIDTH

lmeridth@ufl.edu

Office: Williamson Room 266

Office hours: By appointment

GENERAL INFORMATION:

This course is about making observations of your surrounding natural environment. By applying a few basic geologic principles, you will increase your understanding of Florida, the environment around you, and the world in general. It has been said that the best geologist is the one who has seen the most rocks. With that in mind, the best way to learn geology is to see it first hand, so Florida Geology includes a number of relevant field trips in addition to in-class assignments and activities.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is mandatory! This is your basic responsibility at the college level and I will document attendance for each class. Space on field trips is limited due to the number of seats in the van, so you may not be able to make up a lab that you miss. If you know you are going to have an absence in advance, contact me to plan ahead. If you are sick, you must **provide proper documentation** in order to be allowed to make it up. If there is a personal emergency, please contact me as soon as possible. If you do not contact me by the following week, I will not accept the excuse barring extreme circumstances. If you miss a lab without an excuse, you will not be able to make up the lab. Unexcused absences will result in a reduction of your overall lab grade. If more than two unexcused absences are accumulated, each successive absence will result in a full letter grade deduction. **Be on time for class!** Much of the relevant information regarding the lab is given at the onset of the period. On field trip days we will leave almost immediately after lab is scheduled to begin.

LATE POLICY:

All in-class labs and take-home assignments will be **due at the beginning of the next class**. Late assignments will be subject to a grade deduction of 10% per week. If you are unable to attend class the day an assignment is due, make sure that I have the assignment by or before the scheduled class time. Late assignments can be turned in to my office (WM 266) or my departmental mailbox (WM 256) outside of scheduled class time.

BREAKDOWN OF GRADES:

Attendance and Participation:	10%
Quizzes (3):	30%
Presentation/Paper:	10%
Lab Assignments:	50%

Letter-grade assignment:

A	93+
A-	90-93
B+	86-89
B	83-86
B-	80-83
C+	76-79
C	73-76
C-	70-73
D+	66-69
D	63-66
D-	60-63

LECTURE MATERIALS:

I will have handouts and other important information weekly. It is your responsibility to keep track of handouts as well as graded and returned assignments; therefore I recommend you keep a binder or folder for this lab so you do not lose anything. Materials for most labs will be provided, however, please always bring a pencil and a calculator to lab. Geologists often have to draw or make rough sketches of observations and measurements taken in the field. For this reason, a field notebook is recommended for this course. These can be purchased at the UF bookstore.

FIELD TRIP MATERIALS:

All field trips are tentatively listed on the syllabus, but these dates are subject to change based on weather and site scheduling. We will discuss the particulars for each field trip in the class before the trip. If you miss a class before a field trip, you will be expected to contact me for field trip details. As a general rule: be dressed for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Sneakers or sport sandals should be good for most of the trips. **For the Fossil Hunting trip in Hogtown creek and the Bat Cave expedition, proper field shoes are necessary. Flip flops and shoes that you don't want to get wet/muddy are not recommended for most of our trips.** In most cases we will go rain or shine – always have an umbrella or rain jacket!

UNIVERSITY LIABILITY POLICY:

All students registered for the course are covered under the university's liability policy. We take care to assure that all of our field trips are safe. However, in the unlikely event that there is an incident, the student will be taken directly to the student infirmary.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, 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." You are responsible for knowing and following the university's policy on academic honesty. If you choose not to follow this policy, you will fail the course. The university defines an academic honesty offence as "...the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information with

the intent to gain academic advantage. As a University of Florida student, one is expected to neither commit nor assist another in committing an academic honesty violation. Additionally, it is the student's duty to report observed academic honesty violations. The following actions are examples of violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines: cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, and conspiracy." Other forms of academic dishonesty include collusion (unauthorized or undocumented collaboration) and re-submission (presenting an assignment that you have turned in before in another class).

In addition to the general University academic policy, we need to stress the importance of individual work on all assignments. You will be allowed to collaborate on some of the in-class assignments; however, each individual must turn in their work in their own words and must show all calculations. Failure to follow this procedure will result in a zero for the lab.

DISABILITY SERVICES:

I am exceptionally accommodating if you have any hesitations about this lab, foresee any attendance issues, or are concerned about field trips please email me and we can set up a meeting. The University of Florida's disability policy can be found here: <http://www.ufl.edu/disability/>.

Lab Schedule:

FT = Field Trip

Class Week	Lab #	
Aug 24/28		Introduction and Syllabus
Aug 31/Sept 4	1	Geology of Florida and the Geologic Time Scale
Sept 7/11	2	Florida Museum of Natural History (Self-guided – No class this week)
Sept 14/18	3	FT: Karst Landscapes – Boulware Springs and Paynes Prairie
Sept 21/25	4	Rocks and Minerals Lab
Sept 28/Oct 2	5	FT: Rock Cycle Garden at Santa Fe Community College
Oct 5/9	6	QUIZ 1 – Topographic & Potentiometric Surface Map Lab
Oct 12/16	7	Groundwater Flow Models
Oct 19/23	8	FT: Fluvial Processes – Hogtown Creek
Oct 26/30	9	QUIZ 2 – Climate Change Lab
Nov 2/6	10	November 6 th – Homecoming (No class) Water's Journey Video (Do on your own time; no class this week)
Nov 9/13	11	FT: Hogtown Creek Fossil Hunt
Nov 16/20		QUIZ 3 – Presentations
Nov 23/27		Thanksgiving Break – (No class or lab)
Nov 30/Dec 4	12	FT: Bat Cave (Be on time and dress appropriately!)
Dec 7/Dec 9		Last day of classes December 9 th – Lab sections do not meet this week

NOTE: This schedule may change.