

Learning Goals: Students taking this course should develop an appreciation of critical thinking and the scientific method, including hypothesis testing. Students should recognize the importance of Earth Sciences in understanding of the physical, social, and economic resources and history of our planet. One example: we would expect that any student successfully completing our courses should be able to critically evaluate scientific issues in earth systems discussed in the popular press.

This course satisfies SAS Core Curriculum Goals:

II A: Areas of Inquiry - Natural Sciences – *STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:*

e. Understand and apply basic principles and concepts in the physical or biological sciences.

f. Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in scientific analysis.

DATE		TOPIC	CHAPTER
September	2	Introduction	1
	8	Earth System	1
	9	Continental Drift & Sea Floor Spreading	3
	14	Minerals	5
	16	Minerals	5
	21	Igneous Rocks	6
	23	Metamorphic Rocks	8
	28	First Midterm	
	30	Atmosphere & Climate	20
October	5	Weathering and Soils	Interlude B
	7	Sedimentary Rocks	7
	12	Sedimentary Rocks	7
	14	Relative Time	12
	19	Absolute Time	12
	21	Second midterm	
	26	Faults and Folds	11
	28	Volcanoes	9
November	2	Earthquakes	10
	4	Earth's Interior	2
	9	Plate Tectonics	4
	11	New Jersey Geology	
	16	Third midterm	
	18	Marine Geology	18
	23	Hydrologic Cycle/Groundwater	19
	30	Streams	17
December	2	Glaciers	22
	7	Mass Wasting/Winds & Deserts	16 & 21
	9	Coasts	18

Final Exam: 8-11 AM, 17 December 2015

Book: Earth: Portrait of a Planet – Marshak
Sakai site: <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

Grades: Grades will be based on attendance (4%), 3 exams and the final (24%, 24%, 24%, 24%).
(Attendance: ≥ 22 lectures = 4 points, 21-20 lectures = 3 points, 19-18 lectures = 2 points, 17-16 lectures = 1 point, ≤ 15 lectures = 0 points)
No make up exams allowed unless students with conflicts or health problems provide written documentation.