



University of Puerto Rico  
Mayagüez Campus  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Geology  
Bachelor of Science with specialization in Geology

**Course Syllabus and Instructor Information 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2019-2020**

**1. General Information:**

Alpha-numeric codification: **GEOL 3027**

Course Title: Earth Sciences

Section: **090**

Meeting days and time: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:30-4:20 PM

Course Location: **F-C**

Contact Period: 3 hours of lecture per week

**2. Professor information:**

Name: Ernesto X. Balay Pomales, MS, PG

*Office Hours:* Tuesdays and Thursdays: (9:30am –10:30am / 1:30am -3:30pm)

Office: F-401 (Geology Dept., Physics Bldg.)

Phone: (787) 832-4040 x3021

e-mail: [ernesto.balay@upr.edu](mailto:ernesto.balay@upr.edu)

**3. Course Description:**

Human activities that degrade the earth and those terrestrial phenomena actually or potentially harmful to man.

**4. Pre/Co-requisites and other requirements:**

None

**5. Course Objectives:**

Discuss different applications of geological studies, especially related to resources.

- After completing the course, the student should be able to understand the effects of different human activities on the environment.

**6. Instructional Strategies:**

Conference

Discussion

**7. Requirements:**

All students are expected to:

(1) Attend class all the time and on time.

(2) Do all assigned readings and homework.

(3) Be prepared to participate in class by answering questions and quizzes.

(4) Check your e-mail (@upr.edu) all the time, for messages about the class.

(5) Pass all tests to receive credit for the course.

## 8. Course time frame and thematic outline

Week	Date	Topic	Reading/Reference
1	F: 24 Jan	Course Introduction	
2	M: 27 Jan W: 29 Jan F: 31 Jan	Introduction to Geology Rocks and Minerals Rocks and Minerals	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 2
3	M: 3 Feb W: 5 Feb F: 7 Feb	Plate Tectonics <b>Quiz # 1</b> Plate Tectonics	Chapter 3  Chapter 3
4	M: 10 Feb W: 12 Feb F: 14 Feb	Earthquakes Earthquakes Volcanoes ( <b>Review Exam # 1</b> )	Chapter 4 Chapter 4 Chapter 5
5	<b>M:17 Feb</b> W:19 Feb F: 21 Feb	<b>Holiday</b> <b>Exam #1 (Ch. 1 - 4)</b> Volcanoes	  Chapter 5
6	M:24 Feb W:26 Feb F: 28 Feb	Rivers and Floods Rivers and Floods Shorelines	Chapter 6 Chapter 6 Chapter 7
7	M: 2 Mar W: 4 Mar F: 6 Mar	<b>Quiz # 2</b> Shorelines Mass Wasting	 Chapter 7 Chapter 8
8	M: 9 Mar W: 11 Mar F: 13 Mar	Mass Wasting Climate / Deserts <b>Exam #2 (Ch. 5 – 8)</b>	Chapter 8 Chapter 9
9	M: 16 Mar W: 18 Mar F: 20 Mar	Climate / Glaciers Water Resources <b>Quiz # 3</b>	Chapter 10 Chapter 11
10	<b>M: 23 Mar</b> Th: 26 Mar F: 27 Mar	<b>Holiday</b> Water Resources Soil Resources	 Chapter 11 Chapter 12
11	M: 30 Mar W: 1 Apr F: 3 Apr	Soil Resources Rock and Mineral Resources <b>Exam # 3 (Ch. 9 - 12)</b>	Chapter 12 Chapter 13
12	<b>M: 6 Abr</b> <b>W: 8 Abr</b> <b>F: 10 Abr</b>	<b>(Holiday) Holy Week</b>	
13	M: 13 Apr W: 15 Abr F: 17 Apr	Rock and Mineral Resources Energy Resources <b>Quiz # 4</b>	Chapter 13 Chapter 14

14	M: 20 Apr W: 22 Apr F: 24 Apr	Energy Resources Alternative Energy Alternative Energy	Chapter 14 Chapter 15 Chapter 15
15	M: 27 Apr W: 29 Apr <b>F: 1 May</b>	Waste Disposal <b>Exam # 4 (Ch 13-16)</b> <b>Receso Académico</b>	Chapter 16
16	M: 4 May W: 6 May F: 8 May	Water Pollution Water Pollution Air Pollution	Chapter 17 Chapter 17 Chapter 18
17	M: 11 May <b>W: 13 May</b> <b>F: 15 May</b>	Air Pollution Environmental Law ( <b>Last day of Class</b> ) <b>Finals Review Period</b>	Chapter 18 Chapter 19
	<b>17-24 May</b>	<b>Finals (Ch. 17-19, +1/4 of test will be from old material)</b>	

## 9. Grading System

Quantifiable (letters)

Standard Curve:	100 – 90	A
	89 – 80	B
	79 – 65	C
	64 – 55	D
	54 –	F

## 10. Evaluation Strategies

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exams (5, Including final)	400
Quizzes (4)	100
Attendance	<u>40</u>
<b>Total</b> (No extra credit)	<b>540</b>

*\*Exams will be given during class hours. They will be in Spanish. Lowest grade from exams and quizzes will be eliminated.*

## 11. Tentative Examination schedule:

Exam #1	Friday, February 14
Exam #2	Friday, Mar 3
Exam #3	Friday, Apr 3
Exam #4	Wednesday, Apr 29
Final	To be announced

## 12. Bibliography

*Required text: Environmental Geology, 8th Edition (by C.W. Montgomery)*

Class notes: Lectures will be given in Spanish and will not be distributed until the exam date approaches - you need to come to class to see/hear them. Power point presentations will be emailed.

### 13. **Regulations and Policies:**

- **Class attendance** is compulsory. The University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Professors are expected to record the absences of their students. Frequent absences affect the final grade, and may even result in total loss of credits. Arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence is the responsibility of the student (Bulletin of Information Undergraduate Studies).

- **Absence or tardiness from examinations:** Students are required to attend all examinations on time. If a student is absent from an examination or more than ten (10) minutes late for a justifiable reason acceptable to the professor, he or she will be given a special examination. Otherwise, he or she will receive a grade of zero or "F" in the examination missed.

- **Excuses from class or examinations:** ONLY WRITTEN MEDICAL EXCUSES WILL BE ACCEPTED. If a student is absent from an examination, he/she will have the opportunity to take a make-up test NO LATER than 3 days after the group took the exam. Make-up tests will be given only by appointment.

- **Policies on electronic devices:** Video equipment are not permitted in the classroom at any time. No cell phones are allowed to be in the ring mode during classes, neither students talking or sending messages with cell phones or other electronic device.

- **Cheating:** Cooperative work is not permitted on the quizzes or examinations. Cheating will be dealt with harshly. *All instances of cheating on examinations will be immediately reported to the Dean of Arts and Sciences for review.* There will be no exceptions to this policy.

- **Advice from the professor:** Please come to class each time. The three hours per week in this class are less than 2% of your time. No matter what you do in life, this class will help you understand the world around you. You need to buy the book. You need to read the book. You need to ask questions, talk to your classmates.

### 14. **According to Law 51**

Students will identify themselves with the Institution and the instructor of the course for purposes of assessment (exams) accommodations. For more information please call the Student with Disabilities Office, which is part of the Dean of Students office (Chemistry Building, room 019) at (787)265-3862 or (787)832-4040 extensions 3250 or 3258.

### 15. **Sexual Harassment: Certification 130-2014-2015 states:**

Sexual harassment in the workplace and in the study environment is an illegal and discriminatory act and is against the best interests of the University of Puerto Rico. All persons who understand they have been subject to acts of sexual harassment at the University of Puerto Rico may file a complaint and request that the institution investigate, where necessary, and assume the corresponding action by the university authorities. If the complainant is a student, he or she must refer his or her complaint to the Office of the Student Ombudsperson or that of the Dean of Students.

*\* Any information in this syllabus is subject to change.\**