

**GEOL 4011 & 4012
SEMINAR IN GEOLOGY
W 1630-1720
F-204**

Description of the course: Class presentation and discussion of selected topics in geology.

Objectives of the course:

- Develop the oral presentation skills of the undergraduate students. Emphasis will be given to the effective methods of oral communication and the abilities of the students to provide feedback to others.
- Students will also read, discuss and criticize recent geoscience articles.

Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Ann Vanacore Maher
Red Sismica de Puerto Rico
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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 7:30 – 9:00 AM
By Appointment

Note that due to the nature of my position I can be called away at any time (e.g. press interviews, major seismic events in the Caribbean) and may have a full schedule at other times (e.g. ShakeOut in October). I therefore strongly encourage students to make an appointment to meet with me.

Instructional Strategies:

- Presentation
- Discussion
- Critical Thinking
- Critical Response Papers

Policy:

- All students are expected to:
 - Attend the seminar all the time and on time.
 - Give the presentations assigned.
 - Have the critical response paper prepared (for reading assignments)
 - Be prepared to participate by discussing and providing feedback to other students.
 - Attend all UPRM Geology seminars this semester.
 - Check your e-mail (@upr.edu) all the time, for messages about the course.

- 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).
- Excuses from class or evaluations: Only Written Excuses Will Be Accepted.
- Policies on electronic devices: Radios, tape recorders, and other audio or 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. The use of laptop computers during class is not allowed.
- **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.
- **Plagiarism and 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. Plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University.

Grading:

- One Oral Presentation (Individual) (25%)
- One Poster Presentation (Group – 3 people) (30%)
 - Poster Topic Description Due Oct 5
 - Poster Due Nov 30
- Critical Response Papers (25%)
- Attendance and Participation (20%)
- The final grade will be determined based on the following curve:
 - A = 100-90%
 - B = 89.9-80%
 - C = 79.9-70%
 - D = 69.9-60%
 - F = 59.9-0%

SCHEDULE

| Week | Date | Topic |
|------|--------|----------------------|
| 1 | Aug 17 | Introductory Meeting |

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| 2 | Aug 24 | Technical Writing, Scientific References and Effective Oral Presentations |
| 3 | Aug 31 | How to prepare a poster |
| 4 | Sep 7 | Presentations |
| 5 | Sep 14 | Presentations |
| 6 | Sep 21 | Presentations |
| 7 | Sep 28 | Presentations |
| 8 | Oct 5 | Presentations, Post Presentation Subject Description Due |
| | Oct 12 | Monday Classes |
| 9 | Oct 19 | Presentations |
| 10 | Oct 26 | Presentations |
| 11 | Nov 2 | Presentations |
| 12 | Nov 9 | Presentations |
| 13 | Nov 16 | Presentations |
| | Nov 23 | Friday Classes |
| 14 | Nov 30 | Poster Presentations |
| 15 | Dec 7 | Poster Presentations |

*Schedule may be subject to change due to events such as hurricanes or tropical storms.