



University of Puerto Rico
Mayagüez Campus
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Geology

Course Syllabus and Instructor Information

1. General Information:

Alpha-numeric code: GEOL 4017

Course Title: Elementary Geomorphology

Section: 026

Meeting days and time: **Tuesday/Thursday, 8:30 AM - 9:20 AM**

Course Location: **F-C**

Laboratory Sections:	20L—Friday,	8:30-10:20 AM, F-303	TA: Michael Moul
	40L—Friday,	10:30AM-12:20 PM, F-303	TA: Michael Moul
	50L—Wednesday,	11:30AM-1:20 PM, F-303	TA: Michael Moul

2. Professor information: <https://sites.google.com/site/kstephenhughes/>

Name: Stephen Hughes

Office: F-414 (Geology Dept., Physics Bldg.)

Phone: (787) 832-4040 x2706

e-mail: kenneth.hughes@upr.edu

Office Hours: Tues/Thurs: 9:20-10:20am

Wednesday: 10:20-11:20am, 1:20-4:20pm

**Or by appointment*

**Or anytime my office door is open*

3. Course Description:

Study of the development of landforms; interpretation of topography and topographic maps.

4. Pre/Co-requisites and other requirements:

GEOL 4015 or INCI 4001 or GEOL 3025 and GEOL 3047

5. Course Objectives:

Students will develop the skills necessary to understand and interpret the landscape, predict how a landscape might respond to natural and human forcing, improve their ability to concisely summarize and present scientific research, learn geomorphic data collection and analysis techniques, and understand and apply the principles and tools of geomorphology.

6. Instructional Strategies:

Conference, Discussion, Lab Sessions, Field Trips

Class materials distributed via ecourses.uprm.edu

The class is listed as **GEOL 4017 Geomorphology** on [ecourses](http://ecourses.uprm.edu).

The enrollment key is GEOMorph4017!

7. Requirements:

All students are expected to:

(1) Attend each class. (2) Do all assigned readings.

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

(4) Check your e-mail (@uprm.edu) for messages about the class.

(5) For the labs, you will need: calculator, pencils, colored pencils, ruler, protractor, tracing paper, and engineering paper. Do not wait until it is too late to order or buy these items. Buy them now.

8. Tentative course outline

Week	Date	Session	Topic	Reading/Reference
1	Tues Aug 16 Thurs Aug 18	1 2	Class Introduction Intro to Geomorphology	B&M Chapter 1 B&M Chapter 1
2	Tues Aug 23 Thurs Aug 25	3 4	Geomorphologist's Tool Kit Geomorphologist's Tool Kit	B&M Chapter 2 B&M Chapter 2
3	Tues Aug 30 Thurs Sept 1	5 6	QUIZ 1 /Weathering and Soils Hydrology	B&M Chapter 3 B&M Chapter 4
4	Tues Sept 6 Thurs Sept 8	7 8	Hillslopes Channels	B&M Chapter 5 B&M Chapter 6
5	Tues Sept 13 Thurs Sept 15	9 10	Channels QUIZ 2 /Drainage Basins	B&M Chapter 6 B&M Chapter 7
6	Tues Sept 20 Thurs Sept 22	11	Drainage Basins <i>No Class (Classes of Friday)</i>	B&M Chapter 7
7	Tues Sept 27 Thurs Sept 29		<i>NO CLASS, GSA Conference</i> <i>NO CLASS</i>	
8	Tues Oct 4 Thurs Oct 6	12 13	MID TERM Coastal and Submarine Geomorph	Chapters 1-7 B&M Chapter 8
9	Tues Oct 11 Thurs Oct 13 Sat Oct 15	14 15	Coastal and Submarine Geomorph Glacial and Periglacial FIELD TRIP	B&M Chapter 8 B&M Chapter 9
10	Tues Oct 18 Thurs Oct 20	16	Wind <i>No Class (Classes of Friday)</i>	B&M Chapter 10
11	Tues Oct 25 Thurs Oct 27	17 18	QUIZ 3 /Volcanic Geomorph Tectonic Geomorph	B&M Chapter 11 B&M Chapter 12
B12	Tues Nov 1 Thurs Nov 3	19 20	Tectonic Geomorph Tectonic Geomorph	B&M Chapter 12 B&M Chapter 12
13	Tues Nov 8 Thurs Nov 10		<i>No Class (Receso Academico)</i> Climate	B&M Chapter 13
14	Tues Nov 15 Thurs Nov 17	22 23	Climate Climate	B&M Chapter 13 B&M Chapter 13
15	Tues Nov 22 Thurs Nov 24	24	QUIZ 4 /Landscape Evolution <i>No Class (Thanksgiving)</i>	B&M Chapter 14
16	Tues Nov 29 Thurs Dec 1	25 26	Landscape Evolution Landscape Evolution	B&M Chapter 14 B&M Chapter 14
17	Tues Dec 6 Thurs Dec 8	27 28	TBA TBA	
19	10-17 Dec		FINAL EXAM TBA	Chapters 7-14

I'VE NEVER TAUGHT THIS CLASS BEFORE, I MAY GO MUCH SLOWER OR MUCH FASTER THAN THE OUTLINE SHOWN HERE.

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>
Mid term	100
Final exam	100
Course Quizzes (4 quizzes @ 25 points each)	100
Lab Assignments (11 labs @ 15 points each)	165
Lab Midterm	50
Lab Final Exam	50

Total Points Possible (*No extra credit*) **565**

**Exams will be given only during class hours. Exams will be in English.*

**There will be no make-up quizzes or exams unless deemed necessary by the professor.*

All lab assignments are due at the **BEGINNING of the next lab session (so Lab 1 is due at the beginning of Lab 2). If a lab is turned in late, you will receive a penalty of 1.5 points off per day late. If you do not turn in the lab before the TA returns the graded labs, you will receive a zero for that lab assignment. No exceptions.*

Collaboration: You are welcome to discuss the lab problems with your classmates, however, each student should submit their own work to be graded. Instances of cheating will result in a zero for **BOTH or **ALL** students involved. Don't do it.*

**All grades will be recorded on the ecourses page. If you don't see a grade, that means that you don't have a grade for that assignment. Verify all grades are correctly input into ecourses. I make mistakes all the time.*

11. Tentative Examination schedule:

Class Midterm Exam	Tuesday, October 4 th 8:30am-9:20am
Lab Midterm Exam	Friday, October 14 th 6:00pm-8:30pm
Lab Final Exam	Thursday, December 8 th , Time TBA
Class Final Exam	TBA

The dates of the exams and quizzes WILL NOT change for any reason.

12. Bibliography

Required text: Bierman and Montgomery, 2014, **Key Concepts in Geomorphology**, Freeman Publishing

Class notes: **Lectures will be given in English and will not be distributed - you need to come to class to see/hear them. Si tu no me entiendes, o si quieres, siempre puedes preguntarme en español. No estoy en vacaciones; hablo español.**

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.

- **Absence from examinations:** Students are required to attend all examinations. If a student is absent from an examination for a justifiable reason acceptable to the professor and presented to the professor before the date of the exam, 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 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 5 days after the group took the exam. Make-up exams will only be given by appointment if the student has an excuse deemed legitimate by the instructor.

- **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 used during class.

- **Cheating:** 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:** Do not miss class. You need to buy the book. You need to read the book. You need to ask questions, talk to your classmates, talk to me. If you are having trouble, come to my office hours. I am nice.

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. Lab Schedule:

Week	20L (F)	40L (F)	50L (W)	Topic	Reading
1	F. Aug 26 Lab1	F. Aug 26 Lab1	W. Aug 24 Lab1	TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS	
2	F. Sep 2 Lab2	F. Sep 2 Lab2	W. Aug 31 Lab2	MASS WASTING	
3	F. Sep 9 Lab3	F. Sep 9 Lab3	W. Sep 7 Lab3	FLUVIAL PROCESSES	
4	F. Sep 16 Lab4	F. Sep 16 Lab4	W. Sep 14 Lab4	FLUVIAL LANDFORMS	
5	Th. Sep 22 Lab5	Th. Sep 22 Lab5	W. Sep 21 Lab5		
6	F. Sep 30 Lab6	F. Sep 30 Lab6	W. Sep 28 Lab6		
7	F. Oct 7 Lab7	F. Oct 7 Lab7	W. Oct 5 Lab7		
8	F. Oct. 14: 6:00-8:30pm Lab MIDTERM			Labs 1-6	
9	Th. Oct. 20 Lab8	Th. Oct. 20 Lab8	W Oct. 19 Lab8		
10	F. Oct. 28 Lab9	F. Oct. 28 Lab9	W. Oct. 26 Lab9		
11	F. Nov. 4 Lab10	F. Nov. 4 Lab10	W. Nov. 2 Lab10		
12	<i>F. Nov. 11 No Lab</i>	<i>F. Nov. 11 No Lab</i>	<i>W. Nov. 9 No Lab</i>		
13	F. Nov. 18 Lab11	F. Nov. 18 Lab11	W. Nov. 16 Lab 11		
14	<i>F. Nov. 25 No Lab</i>	<i>F. Nov. 25 No Lab</i>	<i>W. Nov. 23 No Lab</i>		
15	F. Dec. 2 Lab 12 (Bonus)	F. Dec. 2 Lab 12 (Bonus)	W. Nov. 30 Lab 12 (Bonus)		
				<i>Bonus Lab Due at final lab exam</i>	
Final Lab Exam = Thursday, Dec 8, Time TBA					

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