# GEOLOGY (GEOL)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits Offered</th>
<th>Prerequisites/Co-requisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 1303</td>
<td>Essentials of Geology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 1403</td>
<td>Physical Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 1404</td>
<td>Historical Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 2102</td>
<td>Undergraduate Seminar in Geology-Careers in the Geosciences</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 2103</td>
<td>Undergraduate Seminar in Geology-Research in the Geosciences</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 2222</td>
<td>Karst Geology and Paleoclimatology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 2490</td>
<td>Selected Topics</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3326</td>
<td>Introduction to Geological Field Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3329</td>
<td>Geology of National Parks</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3411</td>
<td>Mineralogy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3414</td>
<td>Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3441</td>
<td>Invertebrate Paleontology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3442</td>
<td>Geomorphology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3443</td>
<td>Environmental Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>GEOL 1403 or 1404.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* May be taken concurrently.
GEOL 3490 Selected Topics
1-4 Semester Credit Hours (1-4 Lecture Hours)
May be repeated for credit if topics are significantly different. Subject materials variable.

GEOL 4050 Geology Field Safety Seminar
0 Semester Credit Hours
Restricted to geology majors attending field camp. Students required to meet with geology program coordinator prior to registration for this course.

GEOL 4311 Paleoclimatology
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Reconstruction of Earth's climate system through time using natural archives and proxy evidence. Focus is mostly towards the Quaternary, though longer time spans will be considered, too. Mixed format with lectures, hand-on activities involving paleoclimate data sets, and seminar-style readings and discussions.
Prerequisite: GEOL 1404 and 3441.

GEOL 4316 Marine Geoscience
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Introduction to the geology of the marine environment. Review of plate tectonic processes relevant to the evolution of continental margins and plate boundaries; geophysics and ocean morphology; geology of ocean crust; controls on the types, origin, and distribution of marine sediments; marine geochemistry; nearshore geological processes and the continental shelf; introduction to paleoceanography; global paleoceanographic evolution; critical events in ocean history. Special focus on the Gulf of Mexico.
Prerequisite: GEOL 1403, 1404, CHEM 1411 and 1412.

GEOL 4321 Introduction to Soil and Groundwater Restoration
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Introduction to methods for restoring contaminated soil and groundwater by examining the factors and processes influencing the efficacy of remediation systems. An emphasis will be placed on the scientific principles upon which soil and groundwater remediation is based.
Prerequisite: (GEOL 1403, CHEM 1411, 1412 and GEOL 3443).

GEOL 4326 Field Seminar in Geology
3 Semester Credit Hours (4 Lecture Hours, 1 Lab Hour)
Designed to prepare students for summer field camp. Basic techniques of geologic mapping in the field, data analysis and interpretation, and report writing.
Prerequisite: GEOL 4411 and 4421.
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4411 Sedimentation and Stratigraphy
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Composition and origin of sediments and sedimentary rocks. Description and classification of rocks in hand specimen. Principles of stratigraphy, including stratigraphic units and correlation. Facies models for major depositional systems. Field trips.
Prerequisite: (GEOL 1403) and (GEOL 1404) and (GEOL 3411*).
* May be taken concurrently.
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4415 Economic Geology
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Study of geologic and tectonic parameters of mineral and metals formation. Ore geology and geochemistry. Mining, processing, fabrication, and marketing of natural resources. Field trip to mining operations.
Prerequisite: GEOL 1403 and 3411.
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4416 Introduction to Geochemistry
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Introductory study of the Earth processes using principles of chemical equilibrium, thermodynamics, isotope geochemistry and organic geochemistry. Applications of low-temperature geochemistry to geologic problems.
Prerequisite: CHEM 1411, 1412, MATH 2413 and GEOL 3411.
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4421 Structural Geology
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
PHYS 1401 Geometric and quantitative description of deformation of the Earth's crust, mechanics of brittle and crystal-plastic deformation processes of Earth materials, introduction to continuum mechanics of geologic systems, crustal deformation from micro-scale to global tectonics. Laboratory introduces principles of three-dimensional data representation and analysis, geologic map interpretation, cross-section techniques, and problems in stress and strain analysis.
Prerequisite: GEOL 3411 and MATH 2413 and (PHYS 1401 or 2425).
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4422 Geophysics
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Introduction to quantitative techniques to assess physical properties and processes of the Earth. Topics include earthquake seismology, refraction and reflection seismology, gravimetry, magnetism, electrical methods, and radioactivity of Earth materials. Application of geophysical methods to the study of the Earth, in oil and gas exploration, and in economic and environmental geology.
Prerequisite: (GEOL 4421, PHYS 1401 or 2425) and (PHYS 1402 or 2426) and (MATH 2413).

GEOL 4423 Seismic Methods
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Introduction to the acquisition, processing, and interpretation of 2D and 3D seismic data. Lectures and field exercises are covered. Topics include conceptual and historical foundations of modern reflection seismology; an overview of seismic wave phenomena in acoustics, elastic, and porous media; acquisition principles for land and marine seismic surveys; methods used to create 2D and 3D seismic images from field data; concepts of dip moveout, prestack migration, and depth migration; concepts and limitations of 3D seismic interpretation for structure, stratigraphy, and rock property estimation; and the interpretation role of attributes, impedance estimation, and AVO.
Prerequisite: GEOL 4422.

GEOL 4424 Environmental and Engineering Geophysics
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)
Geophysical techniques for exploring the shallow subsurface for environmental and engineering purposes. Topics include seismic, resistivity, ground penetrating radar, electromagnetic, gravity, and magnetic methods. This course includes both lectures and labs (field exercises) components.
Prerequisite: (PHYS 1401 or 2425) and (PHYS 1402 or 2426) and (MATH 2413).

GEOL 4430 Internship in Geology
1-4 Semester Credit Hours
One to four semester hours of credit may be earned by working in an internship position in industry, with local government, a private firm, or an independent geologist.
GEOL 4436  Introduction to Petroleum Geology  
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)  
Basic concepts of petroleum geology and techniques used in the exploration and production of hydrocarbon systems. Lectures and lab exercises will cover principles of stratigraphy, sedimentology, hydrocarbon generation, hydrocarbon-trapping mechanisms, reservoir characterization, seismic interpretation, well-log interpretation, and geologic risk analysis.  
Prerequisite: GEOL 4411 or 4411*.  
* May be taken concurrently.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4444  Hydrogeology  
4 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 2 Lab Hours)  
Introduction to the fundamentals of groundwater and surface water flow; well hydraulics and evaluation of groundwater as a resource; chemical properties of groundwater and groundwater contamination; groundwater and the environment; and groundwater modeling. This course also examines some of the techniques associated with field hydrogeology and laboratory methods in hydrogeology.  
Prerequisite: GEOL 1403 and MATH 2413 and (PHYS 1401 or 2425).  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.

GEOL 4490  Selected Topics  
4 Semester Credit Hours (1-4 Lecture Hours, 1-4 Lab Hours)  
May be repeated for credit if topics are significantly different. Subject materials variable.

GEOL 4496  Directed Independent Study  
1-4 Semester Credit Hours  
DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY Requires a formal proposal of study to be completed in advance of registration and to be approved by the supervising faculty, the chairperson, and the Dean of the College.

GEOL 4649  Karst of the Yucatan Peninsula  
6 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours, 6 Lab Hours)  
This course describes the different types of caves and karst rocks, the water rock interactions in carbonate rock systems, and it explains cave formation via hydrogeological and geochemical processes. It offers field work experience such as sample collection, determining field parameters, karst and cave surveys, measuring spring discharges in the Yucatán Peninsula of Mexico and laboratory experience on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus.  
Prerequisite: (GEOL 1403 and 4411) or GEOL 4444, 4416 or 4311.

GEOL 4650  Field Geology  
6 Semester Credit Hours (12 Lab Hours)  
Field course involving practical application of geologic principles to field problems. Locations visited and material covered depends on hosting institution. Generally should include: mapping and outcrop data collection; measurement of stratigraphic sections; mapping and preparation of geologic cross-sections; preparation of geologic reports.  
Prerequisite: GEOL 3326, 3414, 3441, 4411 and 4421.  
Co-requisite: SMTE 0094.