

Syllabus
EAS*102 Earth Science
Spring 2016

CRN 1087, 3 Credits, Prerequisites: Eligible for either ENG*101E or ENG*101 and either MAT*085 or MAT*095 with a “C-” or better or taken concurrently.

Course meeting times: On-line

Instructor: Mark D. Busa, (860) 343-5779, MBusa@mxcc.edu, Office: Wheaton Hall Room 313, Office Hours: Mon, Wed 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Scope of course: An introductory survey of the planet Earth, which covers topics in astronomy, oceanography, meteorology and geology. This course may be taken as a general science elective. This course is taught through a combination of classroom lectures, demonstrations, web quests, practical hands-on examination of Earth materials, and field excursions where time permits. This course fulfills a three-credit science elective, and is especially useful for students interested in environmental or physical sciences.

We will use the following textbook: Tarbuck, Lutgens & Tasa, *Earth Science*, 2015, ISBN-10: 0321934431, ISBN-13: 9780321934437, Prentice Hall, 792 pp We may use Microsoft Excel® and other computer interface software (Vernier LabPro) for some class and lab exercises. There is a web page for EAS*102 on Blackboard Learn. The web page contains classwork, homework, most of the lecture materials, and links to web sites related to class material. Access to the course web page is through Blackboard Learn under EAS*102.

Learning Outcomes. After completing this class, you should be able to view the Earth as a planet in the context of our solar system. You will be able to gain an appreciation for how the Earth works, what it is made of, and why its surface looks the way it does. The Earth is the only planet where water exists in three forms at the surface and you should be able to appreciate its cycling through the various Earth systems, and its work as a geologic agent in eroding and shaping the landscape. You will learn that the origin and evolution of Earth’s atmosphere and oceans, how they interact with other Earth systems, and how they are uniquely suited to host life.

General Unit Outlines:

1. The Earth system
2. Motion of the Earth: earthquakes, volcanoes, and plate tectonics
3. Composition of the Earth: core, mantle, crust
4. Water on the land
5. The oceans and atmosphere

How Course Addresses MxCC Core Competencies on a Scale of 0 (Low) to 5 (High):

- Communication Skills: 2
- Conceptual/Critical Thinking Skills: 3
- Technological Literacy: 3
- Information Literacy: 2
- Quantitative Reasoning: 2
- Understanding of Diversity: 2
- Values, Ethics and Responsible Citizenship: 2

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- Aesthetic Perspective: 2

Grade Evaluation:

Four tests @ 100 points each	= 400 points
Five homework assignments @ 40 points each	= 200 points
<u>Total Possible Points</u>	<u>= 600 points</u>

Late assignments may (or may not) be accepted. Those that are accepted late will receive a late penalty.

Your course grade is based on the percentage of you accumulated points divided by total possible points, according to the scoring below:

93 - 100% = A	88 - 92% = A-	85 - 87% = B+	81 - 84% = B
76 - 80 = B-	71 - 75 = C+	65 - 70 = C	61 - 64 = C-
56 - 60 = D+	51 - 55 = D	46 - 50 = D-	0 - 45% = F

Cell Phones. Cell phones and beepers are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement concerning the device. Please do not use your cell phone during class (texting, etc).

Emergency Procedure. Your instructor should note the emergency exit route for your classroom, should a quick evacuation be necessary. Emergency guidebooks are located in rooms throughout the campus. Please find the time to familiarize yourself with the contents.

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IMPORTANT COLLEGE POLICIES!! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/ or scan the QR code with your smart phone. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/.



NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Middlesex Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the additional basis of veteran status or criminal record. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

Primary Title IX Coordinator

Dr. Adrienne Maslin; Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator
amaslin@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5759; Founders Hall Room 123

Secondary Title IX Coordinator

Ms. Queen Fordham, Coordinator of the Meriden Center Welcome Desk
qfordham@mxcc.edu; 203-608-3011.