

ES 104L Earth System Science Lab
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Fall Term 2015 - Western Oregon University
Thursday 9 - 11 AM Room 115 Natural Sciences Bldg.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. S. Taylor

OFFICE: RM 210 Natural Sciences Bldg

OFFICE HOURS: T 4-5 PM; R 4-5 PM

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course represents the lab component of ES104 and is designed as a supplement to the lecture portion of the course. The lab is a "hands-on" activity module with topics including basic physical science, astronomy, and physical geology.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Earth and Physical Science Dept., Western Oregon University, 2015, ES104 Lab Manual; Available at bookstore.

EVALUATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS:

Student performance will be evaluated on the basis of nine (9) lab exercises and three (3) quizzes. The following is a breakdown of evaluation points:

Lab Exercises (8 x 10 pts)	80 pts	62%
Quizzes (2 x 25 pts)	50 pts	38%
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Total	130 pts	100%

*Note: Your final lab grade percentage will represent your final point tally, with 100 pts total possible, this will comprise your lab grade sent to your lecture instructor.

Laboratory Exercises: The labs represent a significant component of the class. All lecture sections of ES104 will be distributed across several lab instructors. Be aware that some of you will have the same lecture and lab instructor, while others will not. The following are the terms and conditions of the Lab-portion of the class:

- (1) You must pass the lab with an average score > 60% to pass the course! For example, if you have an "A" in lecture, and an "F" in lab, you will receive an "F" for the entire course. Moral of the story, attend and successfully pass the lab.
- (2) Your lab score will be factored into your final lecture grade as prescribed by the instructor.
- (3) Lab exercises turned in late will result in automatic point(s) reduction, at the discretion of the lab instructor.
- (4) The specific lab instructor has the final say in all lab grading. The lecture instructors will abide by the lab instructors grading procedure.

MAKE-UP LABS AND INCOMPLETES

Under NO circumstances will make-up labs be administered without prior arrangement (at least five days) and good reason, with a signed administrative excuse. Please show up on lab day! Many of our labs involve set-ups that will be taken down at the end of the week. Due to room scheduling issues, it is very difficult to arrange make-up labs. Under NO circumstances will a grade of "incomplete" be issued in the last week of class. If you find yourself in a situation where you can't complete the required course work, please make arrangements with the instructor prior to the last week of class.

LAB NOTES:

A comprehensive set of instructor class notes and lab answer keys are available for download via the internet. The class web site is at URL [http://www.wou.edu/taylor ...](http://www.wou.edu/taylor) and follow the links to the "ES104" home page. The class notes are available as Adobe Acrobat Reader files (*.pdf file). Acrobat Reader is free and is installed on many campus PC's. For home installation, Acrobat Reader is also available for download at the class web site, but you will be responsible for properly installing the software (and will do so at your own risk!). Lab answer keys will be posted on the web site as the term progresses. It is strongly suggested that you use the lab answer keys to prepare for the quizzes.

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Students will also need access to a scientific CALCULATOR, ruler, and protractor. You will be required to use these materials during lecture, lab, and exams. Please plan accordingly, or you will have trouble successfully completing the class. **BRING A CALCULATOR TO EVERY CLASS MEETING.**

PRE-LAB READING QUESTIONS AND POST-LAB ASSESSMENT:

A set of pre-lab reading questions will be distributed by your instructor during the first week of class. The pre-lab questions are designed to get you to read through the lab PRIOR to the lab period, so that you are prepared to work on the lab efficiently. Students must complete the pre-lab questions prior to attending lab during a given week. The pre-lab questions will form part of the final lab assignment and will be graded accordingly. The "post-lab" assessment questions for each lab are due at the beginning of the next lab period. The Pre-Lab and Post-Lab questions represent standing homework assignments that will be checked and graded each week.

LAB SCHEDULE:

Week	Dates	Topic
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1	10/01/15	No Labs
2	10/08/15	Lab 1 – Models and Systems
3	10/15/15	Lab 2 – Investigating the Solar System
4	10/22/15	Lab 3 – Light and Wave Travel
5	10/29/15	Lab 4 –Introduction to Plate Tectonics Lab Quiz 1
6	11/05/15	Lab 5 – Earthquakes
7	11/12/15	Lab 6 – Physical Properties of Minerals
8	11/19/15	Lab 7 – Igneous Rocks
9	11/26/15	No Lab Thanksgiving Break (Take Home Assignment)
10	12/03/15	Lab 8 – Volcanism and Volcanic Landforms Lab Quiz 2
11	12/10/15	***Finals Week --- No Lab***
