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## Course Syllabus

# ESC1000 Introduction to Earth Science

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**Course objectives** The Earth comprises four components: the solid earth, the hydrosphere (water), the atmosphere, and the biosphere (life forms). We will explore many of the fundamental processes that occur in each of these components and the interactions between them.

### Course structure

The course consists of ten modules. The material for each module consists of textbook reading, additional reading of PDFs, websites, and video lectures. There are one to two [assignments](#) associated with each module. These assignments are done through MasteringGeology, which is now integrated with Canvas and can be accessed directly through links within Canvas. Due to the variation of amount and difficulty of content between modules, the amount of time for each module and associated assignments varies between modules. Because there is no set day of the week, you will need to pay close attention to due dates for assignments. Assignments are not weighted equally, i.e., the amount of points for each assignment varies depending on the length and type of each assignment. Due dates for each assignment are shown below, as well as in the Assignments link within Canvas. All assignments are due at 11:59 pm. Note that regardless of when you complete/submit your assignment, you will not receive your grade until the assignment deadline has passed. All assignments covered by an exam will be become available at the same time (immediately after the previous exam), but have different due dates. The primary goal of the [assignments](#) is to reinforce the basic material learned from the readings and video lectures.

In addition to the MasteringGeology assignments you will turn in three other [group projects](#) that vary in nature. In these projects you will work in groups of three to four students. The goal of these projects is to take your comprehension of some of the material to the next level.

You will take three [exams](#) throughout the semester. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions and will be administered through Proctor U. The material covered on the exams is clearly laid out in the list of [objectives](#) posted in each individual module.

Exam I covers Modules 1-3

Exam II covers Modules 4-7

Exam III covers Modules 8-10

The [Objectives](#) are clearly laid out for each module. Objectives are a list of what you are expected to know or do with the material. They are laid out with verbs such as list, explain, describe, calculate, etc. so that it is clear what you should be able to do with the material. These should be used as a guide to your preparation for [Exams](#), as all exam questions are encompassed by the listed objectives.

Most objectives are covered within the assignments.

Your final grade will be calculated based on the following:

30% Assignments (MasteringGeology)

15% Group Projects

55% Exams (15% lowest score, other two 20%)

A >90%

A- 88-89.9%

B+ 85-87.9%

B 81-84.9%

B- 79-81.9%

C+ 75-78.9%

C 70-74.9%

C- 67-69.9%

D+ 64-66.9%

D 61-64%

E <61%

**Additional information:** On the [Home > Start Here: Welcome to ESC1000](#) - Introduction to Earth Science! links you can find a tutorial video on using Canvas, as well as additional information such as where to get technical help and recommended notification settings. There is also a welcome video on this page.