

Geology 551 Sect.1 Syllabus; Fall, 2018

GEOL551 Section 1	Fall, 2018	Geology Research
Dr. Scott Werts		Office: Sims 212A
Course Classroom: Sims 210/110		Meeting Time: TBD
Email: wertss@winthrop.edu		Office Hours: MW 9:30-11
Text: <i>No text. Readings assigned by instructor</i>		Office Phone: 323-4930

Course Goals and Objectives: The objective of this course is to give the students experience in conducting scientific research projects in geology and write a report on research in the form of a scholarly article. Throughout this course, the student will: design and conduct an investigation of a topic in one of the main disciplines of geology; complete a search of the earth science literature relevant to your topic; collect and analyze data from your own designed project; write a report on your research in the form of a scholarly article.

Course Attendance: You are expected to devote at least 9 hours to laboratory or field work each week, in addition to time spent preparing course assignments. Additional requirements will be outlined by your research mentor.

Course Grading: Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution of work:

Weekly Meeting Preparation	100 Pts
Laboratory Techniques	100 Pts
Laboratory Notebook/Field Notes	100 Pts
Reference Search	50 Pts
Initial Draft of Paper/Poster-Introduction/Methods	50 Pts
Final Paper/Poster	200 Pts
Course Total	500 Pts

The weekly meetings will consist of discussion of recent lab results, analysis of correlation between several measured components and/or discussion of assigned reading material or other pertinent literature. The lab and field notebooks will be graded on format, neatness, and completeness. Points for laboratory techniques will be assigned based on the quality of the lab work produced.

The student will conduct a directed investigation of the scientific literature relevant to the specific project agreed upon by the student and mentor. Searches will employ the SciFinder service and the Dacus Library online catalog (and other available databases, as appropriate). The primary focus of the search should be on introductory material for the introduction and methods sections. As data becomes available from analysis conducted by the student, the literature search focus will shift toward the specific research questions being answered by the student's research. The initial reference search should include at least 5 properly sited sources using the correct GSA format described in class. The initial draft of the title, introduction and methods section of the paper or poster including the initial 5 references will be due by April 15th.

The final paper, due by April 24th, will include the revised title, introduction and methods section and also include the results, discussion and conclusion sections authored by the student. The paper will be a minimum 8 pages in length, not including any graphs or tables, and will include at least 10 references or will be a poster that will be displayed and presented by the student at the year end research showcase for our department.

Grades for the course will be determined based on the following grading scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Statement on Cheating: Your grade in this course will be based solely on your work alone. Any attempt to copy another students answers during tests, quizzes or homework or any use of unauthorized materials (cheat sheets/information stored on calculators/etc.) during test and quiz time is strictly forbidden and could result in an “F” for the entire course in conjunction with other unpleasant administrative actions. Answers to questions from homework assignments should reflect your work, not sentences copied from books, websites or from others students. Unethical behavior with regard to course material will not be tolerated.

Students with Disabilities/Need of Accommodations for Access:

Winthrop University is committed to providing access to education. If you have a condition which may adversely impact your ability to access academics and/or campus life, and you require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Office of Accessibility (OA) at [803-323-3290](tel:803-323-3290), or, accessibility@winthrop.edu. Please inform me as early as possible, once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility.

Academic Success Center

Winthrop’s Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students achieve academic excellence, such as tutoring, academic skill development (test taking strategies, time management counseling, and study techniques), group and individual study spaces, and academic coaching. The ASC is located on the first floor of Dinkins, Suite 106. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu. For more information on ASC services, please visit www.winthrop.edu/success.

Attendance Policy

Winthrop University policy states that students will not receive credit for a course in which they miss 25% or more of the scheduled class meetings. If you feel that you need to miss class for a legitimate reason, I just ask that you let me know and be prepared to provide documentation if necessary. It your responsibility to contact me regarding missed work or contact students for any missed notes.

The Office of Victims Assistance

The Office of Victims Assistance (OVA) provides services to survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking as well as educational programming to prevent these crimes from occurring. The staff assists all survivors, regardless of when they were victimized in obtaining counseling, medical care, housing options, legal prosecution, and more. In addition, the OVA helps students access support services for academic problems resulting from victimization. The OVA is located in 204 Crawford and can be reached at (803) 323-2206. In the case of an after-hours emergency, please call Campus Police at (803)323-3333, or the local rape crisis center, Safe Passage, at their 24-hour hot-line, (803)329-2800.

For more information please visit: <http://www.winthrop.edu/victimassistance/>