

GLY3163: SYLLABUS GEOLOGY OF AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS

ABOUT THE COURSE

COURSE CREDITS

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Ryan Wilhelmi

- **Office:** Williamson Hall 376
- **e-mail:** For communication regarding the course e-mail the instructor or TA within e-Learning (Canvas email). For documents you are unable to send via Canvas email you may use rwilhelmi@ufl.edu
- **Office Hours:** Friday 1-3 pm (held virtually via Zoom) [Zoom LinkLinks to an external site.](#)

COURSE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Ananya Singha Tuesday 2-3 pm [Zoom LinkLinks to an external site.](#)

McKayla Meier Monday 10:30-11:30 am [Zoom LinkLinks to an external site.](#)

COURSE WEBSITE

elearning.ufl.edu

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

Please post general course questions on the **Have a Questions? discussion board**. Personal questions should be sent via e-mail through e-Learning.

Instructor will respond to students' inquiries within 24 hours on work days and within 48 hours on weekends.

TEXTBOOKS

Geology of National Parks, 8th edition, by D. Foster and D. Hacker. Kendall/Hunt Publishing 2022, ISBN 978-1-7924-8150-5

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Web links will be provided in the individual modules.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the geological setting of selected U.S. National Parks. It provides an overview of geological concepts using the Parks as examples and relates the geology to cultural aspects of these parks and environmental issues. (General Education P)

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This course provides an overview of the geology of select American National Parks and adjacent regions in the context of geodynamic and geomorphologic processes. The National Parks display dramatic landscapes and geological features in nearly every of plate tectonic setting.

We will use the geology of the Parks to better understand the materials that make up the Earth's crust and the integrated Earth systems involved in forming and modifying landscapes in the surface environment. The Earth systems include interactions between the dynamics of the solid Earth (lithosphere), surface water and ground water (hydrosphere), climate and weather (atmosphere), and life form (biosphere).

The geology of the National Parks will be related to cultural aspects and environmental issues. We will also study geological hazards including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and landslides that pertain to the various parks and adjacent regions.

When you complete this course you will be able to identify geologic features of the American national parks, explain the plate tectonic forces and surface processes that combine to create unique landscapes, analyze data to develop hypotheses about the development of geological elements and predict future conditions in area within and around the Parks, and evaluate the role of humans in preserving, utilizing and modifying the geology of the Parks. This course will cover the following parks:

- Grand Canyon National Park
- Zion National Park

- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Arches National Park
- Canyonlands National Park
- Mesa Verde National Park
- Death Valley National Park
- Grand Teton National Park
- Mount Rainier National Park
- Olympic National Park
- Mount Saint Helens
- Crater Lake National Park
- Yosemite National Park
- Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park
- Yellowstone National Park
- Great Smokey Mountain National Park
- Acadia National Park
- Shenandoah National Park
- Glacier National Park
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Denali National Park
- Glacier Bay National Park

This is a General Education Physical Sciences (P) course that provides student learning outcomes as listed below (General Education subject area objectives may be found at <https://undergrad.ua.fl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/subject-area-objectives/>).

COURSE POLICIES

PERFORMANCE POLICY

This online course has been developed with the same rigorous standards of content as a campus course. Expectations for your performance are as high as they would be if you were taking this course in a classroom.

The course material will be delivered to you through your textbooks, and this e-Learning in Canvas course site. You will play an active role in learning the material through:

- Reading the assigned textbook material
- View the video lectures
- Quizzes
- Discussion
- Essay exams

PARTICIPATION POLICY

Students are required to participate in all course activities and submit all assignments posted on the website. Students are required to participate in the group discussions by posting and replying to materials.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Complete all modules in the order they are presented on the course website; do not skip modules. Late work will not be accepted. In the event of illness or emergency, you must provide documentation and contact the Dean of Students office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/Links to an external site..>

Should you have technology issues, you MUST contact the Help Desk immediately at <http://helpdesk.ufl.eduLinks to an external site.> or 352-392-HELP – select option 2.. Any requests due to technical difficulties must be accompanied by the Help Desk ticket number and be submitted within 24 hours of the incident.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY

Students must use the email tool in Canvas for this course to communicate with the instructor and teaching assistant. Students are recommended to check their email account DAILY for the duration of the course. Access to and on-going use of a computer with Internet access is required for all students. Competency in the basic use of a computer is required. At times, computers crash and Internet connections fail. It is in your best interest NOT to wait until the last minute to complete assignments.

For help with e-Learning, contact the Help Desk at <http://helpdesk.ufl.eduLinks to an external site.> or (352) 392-HELP - select option 2.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/Links to an external site..> Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and may complete evaluations through the

email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/Links to an external site.>

GRADING POLICIES

For more information about the current UF grading policies for assignments and grade points go to the [UF Grades and Grading Policies web pageLinks to an external site.](#)

ASSIGNMENT	TOTAL POINTS
TOTAL	890
Essay exams	200
Discussions (6)	240
Quizzes (15)	450

Grading guidelines for individual assignments can be found in the course modules. Extra credits totaling 30 points will be awarded for completion of the syllabus quiz.

Grading guidelines for individual assignments can be found in the course modules. A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. Final grading is based upon the percentage breakdown below:

93 – 100	A
90 – 92	A-
87 – 89	B+
83 – 86	B
80 – 82	B-
77 – 79	C+
73 – 76	C

70 – 72	C-
67 - 69	D+
63 - 66	D
60 - 62	D-
Below 59	E

GRADING SCALE

UF grading policies for assigning grade points may be found at the following site:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

UF POLICIES

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

[The Disability Resource Center](#)[Links to an external site.](#) (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) in the Dean of Students Office provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. Staff at the Disability Resource Center will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation of a disability is required to determine eligibility for appropriate accommodations. The professional employees at the Disability Resource Center serve as full-time advocates for students with disabilities ensuring students have physical and programmatic access to all college programs. One of the services provided by the Disability Resource Center includes accommodated testing - for further information visit [UF Accommodated Testing](#)[Links to an external site.](#).
[Register here with the UF Disability Resource Center](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#)Links to an external site. specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. It is expected that all work submitted for assignments is original and cited correctly. Violations to the code will be reported and plagiarism or submitting text derived by machine learning will result in a failing grade. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

NETIQUETTE

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#)Links to an external site..

RECORDING OF LECTURES

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal education use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who published a recording without the written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

GETTING HELP

TECHNICAL HELP

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk:

- Location: HUB 132
- Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu
- Phone: (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- Website: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>[Links to an external site.](#)

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues **MUST** be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You **MUST** e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.