

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



COURSE OUTLINE

**COURSE TITLE:**

**REGIONAL GEOLOGY**

**CODE NO. :**

**NRT 221**

**SEMESTER: 3**

**PROGRAM:**

**PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION**

**AUTHOR:**

**Lawrence Foster**

**DATE:**

**May 2010**

**PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:**

**Sep  
2009**

**APPROVED:**

**"B.Punch"**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS: 4**

**PREREQUISITE(S):**

**NONE**

**HOURS/WEEK:**

**3 HRS/WEEK X 15 WEEKS**

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For additional information, please contact Brian Punch, Chair  
School of Natural Environment/Outdoor Studies & Technology Programs  
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**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Students will gain an understanding of the processes that have led to the incredible variety of formations in the rocks and soils of our region. These will be related to land use and travel patterns both contemporary and historical. Included will be rock formation, minerals, surficial geology, soils and fossil formation and identification.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Explain the Geological Development of the Earth since the Beginning of its formation.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe the makeup of the earth
- Explain the theory of plate tectonics, (continental drift)
- Explain why magnetic reversals are observed
- Explain the structure of subduction zones and their associated phenomena
- Describe mid-oceanic ridges
- Describe the geological time scale and how it applies to Ontario
- Explain the development of the present-day continents.
- Explain the major dating processes used to determine the age of rocks

This learning outcome will constitute 15% of the course's grade.

2. Explain the Development of Ontario's Precambrian Shield Country.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain the role of Plate Tectonics in forming the Precambrian in Ontario
  - the Archean Continent and Superior Province
  - the Southern Province-a Zone of Transition and Change
  - the Grenville Orogeny and the Grenville Province
  - Pre-Cambrian Sedimentation, glaciation and Metamorphosis
- Describe the present-day Precambrian provinces and zones in relation to the building processes described previously

- Identify a variety of rock types found in the Algoma District and relate them to the previously described geological processes
- Identify a variety of important and common minerals of Ontario

This learning outcome will constitute 40% of the course's grade.

3. Describe the Sedimentary building events of the Paleozoic era, which have led to Sedimentary rock formation south and north of the Precambrian Shield.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe the main types of sedimentary rock found in Ontario in relation to rock type, origin, characteristics and age
- Explain the formation of Precambrian sandstones
- Explain the formation of the Middle Ordovician Limestones of the North Channel Islands and central S. Ontario
- Explain the formation of the Upper Ordovician Deposits of Manitoulin Is. and central S. Ontario
- Explain the formation of the Silurian deposits of Manitoulin Is. and the Niagara Escarpment
- Explain the formation of Devonian rocks of SW Ontario
- Identify the major sedimentary rock types
- Identify major fossil groups found in the sedimentary rocks of Ontario
- Explain why the remains of dinosaurs and other more recent large animals have seldom been found in Ontario
- Relate each of the above to Ontario's geological time scale

This learning outcome will constitute 25% of the course's grade.

4. Explain the major glacial events in Ontario's recent history and describe the resulting impacts on Surficial Geology and Landforms produced.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- On maps of Ontario, describe the sequences of glacial advances and associated glacial lakes
- Explain Isostatic rebound and how this phenomenon has left its mark in Algoma District
- Identify and explain the formation of glacial landforms such as eskers, drumlins, kames, potholes, outwash plains and moraines
- Explain climate change in the recent epoch and its impact on animal and plant populations

This learning outcome will constitute 20% of the course's grade.

#### **IV Required Resources/Texts/Material:**

Pye, E.G. 1997. Roadside Geology of Ontario: North Shore of Lake Superior. Ontario GEOservices Centre, ROCK ON Series 2, 164 pp.

#### **Some Other Resources Available on Reserve in the Library:**

Eyles, N. 2002. Ontario Rocks, three Billion Years of Environmental Change. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, Markham (ON). 339 pages.

American Geological Institute. 1984. Dictionary of Geological Terms. Toronto, Anchor Books, Doubleday 571 pp.

Annelis, R.N. 1973. Proterozoic Flood Basalts of Eastern Lake Superior: The Keweenaw Volcanic Rocks of the Mamainse Point Area, Ontario. Geol. Survey Can., Pap. 72-10. 51 pp, map, figure.

*Chernicoff, S., H.A. Fox and R. Venkarakrishnan. 1997. Essentials of Geology. New York, Worth Publ. 411 pp. Appendices.*

Geddes, R.S., F.J. Kristjansson and J.T. Taylor. 1987. XII th Inqua Congress Field Excursion c-12. Quaternary Features and Scenery along the North Shore of Lake Superior. 62 pp.

Hewitt, D.F., and E.B. Freeman. 1978. Rocks and Minerals of Ontario, Revised Edition. Ontario Department of Mines and Northern Affairs, GC 13, 145 pp.

Karrow, P.F. 1991. Quaternary Geology, St. Joseph Island. Ont. Geol. Surv., Open File Rep. 5809. 81 pp. maps.

*Levin, H.L. 1988. The Earth Through Time. Philadelphia, Saunders College Publishing. 595 pp plus Appendices, Index.*

*Levin, H.L. 1990. Contemporary Physical Geology. Toronto, Saunders. 623 pp.*

*Lutgens, F.K. and E.J. Tarbuck. 2000. Essentials of Geology. Upper Saddle River (NJ), Prentice Hall. 449 pp.*

*Merritts, D., A. De Wet and K. Menking. 1998. Environmental Geology. New York, W.H. Freeman. 452 pp.*

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Ontario 1994. ROCK Ontario. ROCK ON Series 1, Queen's Printer for Ontario, Toronto 89 pp.

Mottana, A. et al. 1977. Simon & Schuster's Guide to Rocks and Minerals. New York, Fireside Books, Simon & Schuster 607 pp.

*National Geographic Society. 1976. Our Continent, a Natural History of North America. Washington, National Geographic Society. 398 pp.*

*Press, F. and R. Siever. 2000. Understanding Earth. NY. W.H. Freeman. 573 pp.*

**Robertson, J.A. and K.D. Card. 1972. Geology and Scenery, North Shore of Lake Huron Region. Ont. Geol. Survey, Geol. Guide Book 4. 224 p.**

Russell, L.S. 1965. The Mastodon. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. 16 pp.  
Shrock, R.R. and W.H. Twenhofel 1953. Principles of Invertebrate Paleontology. New York, McGraw-Hill. 816 pp

Sabina, A. P. 1991. Rocks and Minerals for the Collector; Sudbury to Winnipeg. Geol. Survey Canada Misc. Rep.49:315 pp.

Strickland, D. 1998. Brent Crater Trail, History of the Crater. Whitney (ON), Friends of Algonquin Park. 14 pp.

Symes, R.F. et. al. 1988. Rocks & Minerals. Toronto, Stoddard Publ. 64 pp.

Tarbuck, E.J. and F.K. Lutgens. 2005. Earth, an Introduction to Physical Geology. Upper Saddle River (NJ), Pearson Prentice-Hall. 711 pp.

**Theberge, J.B. 1989. Legacy, The Natural History of Ontario. Toronto, McClelland & Stewart Inc. 397 pp. (available in reference section)**

Thompson, I. 1997. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American fossils. New York, Alfred A. Knopf. 846 pp.

Tovell, W.W. 1979. The Niagara River. Toronto, Royal Ontario Museum. 25 pp.

Tovell, W. M. 1992. Guide to the Geology of the Niagara Escarpment, with Field Trips. Niagara Falls (ON), Niagara Parks Commission. 159 pp., Field Trips a-1 to J-8 and Appendices.

Thurston, P.C. et al. (Editors) 1991. Geology of Ontario, Ontario Geological Survey, Special Volume 4, Part 1. 711 pp., part 2, 1525 pp.

Verma, H. M. 1979. Geology and Fossils, Craigeith Area, Ontario. Ont. Geol. Survey Guidebook 7, 61 pp.

**Waddington, J. 1979. An Introduction to Ontario Fossils. Toronto, Roy. Ont. Mus. 28 pp.**

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

**The final grade will be determined on the basis of the following:**

Term test 1- Unit 1:	15%
Term test 2 - Unit 2:	15%
Term test 3 – Units 3-4:	20%
Rock Identification Test:	10%
Mineral Identification Test:	10%
Mineral Assignment	5%
Presentation on Geological Feature:	10%
Field Trip Reports	10%
Attendance & Participation	<u>5%</u>
Total	100%

There will be up to 4 field trips to view geological formations. Attendance on field trips is mandatory. All marks for reports on these trips will be forfeited for non-attendance.

Field trips are scheduled as per the course syllabus.

All reports will be discounted 10% per day late. Presentations are to be done on prescribed day or will also be discounted.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<b>Grade</b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>	<i>Grade Point Equivalent</i>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	4.00
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in	

X	field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area. A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:****Retention of course outlines:**

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

**VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:**

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.