

GEOL 5092

General Info

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Alias Course Info

Semester Course Info

Course ID: GEOL 5092
Course Prefix: GEOL
Course Number: 5092
Course Short Name: Geowriting
Course Long Name: Geowriting
Department/School: GEOL (Geological Sciences)
College: A&S (Arts and Sciences, College of)
Credit Hours: FIXED | 4.0 hours
Grade Eligibility: 01: A-F,WP,WF,FN,FS,AU,I
Repeat/Retake: NEITHER
Typical Offer Frequency: YEARLY
Typical Terms Offered: Spring
Course Description: This course focuses on the skills needed to communicate research results in the geological sciences. Topics include abstract writing, speech presentation, poster construction, research to writing tips, and clear precise writing for papers and theses. Final assessment will include the completion of a research paper, an oral presentation on this paper as well as a poster presentation on this research.

Quarter Course Relation:

Additional Resources:

Outcome Goals:

1. to recognize and become familiar with conventions in writing used by geologists (every science field is different).
2. to provide students with practice in manipulating and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data to compare patterns and organize disparate pieces of information into a coherent whole.
3. to learn how to conduct specialized research and present this research through speech and poster format as well as text.
4. to use writing and reading skills to communicate well in the field of geology.
5. to recognize and become familiar with conventions in writing used by geologists (every science field is different).
6. Graduate students will be expected to take a lead in class discussion and to show greater effort in class exercises.
7. 15% of their final grade will be based on extra work. They will be required to write a literature review on a topic connected with their thesis research.

Prerequisites

Prerequisite Text:

Prerequisites:

No Credit - Sequence: No credit for this course if taken after the following:

No Credit - Duplicate: No credit for both this course and the following (always deduct credit for first course taken):

No Credit - Limit: No credit for this course if the following is taken (keeps credit for the following course, as defined by department):

Course Content

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Course Components:	Type	Contact Hours Per Week	Number of Sections/Year	Default Section Size	Might Be Offered Online	Comments
Primary	Lecture	3.0	1.0	20.0	No	

Course Topics:

1. Week 1: Incorrect Usage of Words and Phrases/Substance with Structure
2. Week 2: English Grammar
3. Week 3: Writing for Different Types of Readers
4. Week 4: Presentation of Research in Geologic Papers

5. Week 5: Writing Abstracts
6. Week 6: Expanding Vocabulary
7. Week 7: Presenting Data
8. Week 8: Review of Literature
9. Week 9: Library Research
10. Week 10: Tips for Clearer Writing
11. Week 11: Hands On Practice
12. Week 12: Giving Speeches
13. Week 13: Making Posters
14. Week 14: Research Topic Presentations

Course Topic Notes: Students will first have a review of English grammar along with enhancement of vocabulary lessons weekly as well as the identification of the usual abuse of words and phrases. Then the general format and structure of papers and presentations will be presented, including abstract writing, review of literature, and data presentation. Geologic papers will be used as examples. A research paper with poster and speech presentation will be the focus of final assessment as the class works through to this final goal.

Texts/Readings: Main text: Geowriting. Bates, R.L., Adkins-Heljeson, M.D., and Buchanan, R.C. (editors) 2008. 5th revised edition. American Geological Institute

Various geologic papers will be used to illustrate format and presentation style.

Gopen, G.D. and Swan, J.A., 1990. The science of scientific writing. American Scientist, v. 78, p. 550-558 ; this will serve as a basis for explaining clear writing.

Key Grade Factors: Poster Presentation and Speech 25%
Final Paper 25%
Weekly Writing exercises 40%
Class Participation 10%
Total: 100%
