

GLY 3163 Geology of American National Parks

Syllabus

16 weeks to complete the course from the date of course access

ABOUT THE COURSE

COURSE CREDITS

3 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. David Foster

- **Office:** Williamson Hall 366
- **Phone:** 352.294.7495
- **e-mail:** For communication regarding the course e-mail the instructor or TA within e-Learning
- **Office Hours:** By appointment -- please e-mail through the e-Learning website to schedule a virtual meeting with the instructor or TA.

COURSE TA OR COORDINATOR

TBA

COURSE WEBSITE

<https://elearning.ufl.edu>

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

Please post general course questions on the **Have a Questions? discussion board**. Personal questions should be sent via email through eLearning.

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

TEXTBOOKS

Geology of National Parks, 7th edition, by D. Hacker, D. Foster, and A.G. Harris.
Kendall Hunt Publishing 2019

The book is available through the University bookstores and through the Kendall Hunt web site.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Web links will be provided in the individual modules.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the geological setting of selected US National Parks. It provides an overview of geological concepts using the Parks as examples and relates geology to the 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 processes involved in forming and modifying landscapes in the surface environment.

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, as well as explain the plate tectonic forces and surface processes that combine to create unique landscapes. This course will cover the following parks:

- Grand Canyon National Park

- Zion National Park
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Arches National Park
- Canyonlands 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
- 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

COURSE POLICIES

PERFORMANCE POLICY

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

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

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

The course expires 16 weeks after your enrollment. Complete all modules in the order they are presented on the course website; do not skip modules. **All assignments must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the course expiration date.**

COURSE TECHNOLOGY

Students must use their Gatorlink email account for this course. 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 helpdesk.ufl.edu or (352) 392-HELP - select option 2.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations provided in the course modules (mid-term and end-of-term evaluations).

COURSE DEADLINE

Students are allowed 16 weeks, from their date of enrollment, to complete and submit their coursework. If the student has not submitted at least 50% of their coursework and have an extenuating circumstance preventing them from submitting the coursework, a failing grade of “E”, “E0” or “E1” will be issued and recorded to the UF Registrar.

COURSE CANCEL

A tuition refund may be granted after a student submits a written request within 30 days of enrollment to the Flexible Learning Office. This request must be in writing by learn@dce.ufl.edu. If a credit card was used, the refund will be credited a back to the card. **No refunds are granted after 30 days.**

COURSE DROP

To drop a course, you need to email the Flexible Learning office at learn@dce.ufl.edu with a request to drop within 14 weeks of the date of enrollment. In addition to their own request by email, *UF* students must have advisor approval to drop a flexible learning course. An advisor can email learn@dce.ufl.edu with the student’s name, the course that they want to drop, and confirmation of permission to do so. It is the student's responsibility to verify that all drop requests have been received by the

Flexible Learning office within the allotted time. The course grade will appear as "W" on a UF transcript.

Students with disabilities who need to drop a course due to disability-related reasons are permitted to petition for additional drops. Find more information by contacting the [Disability Resource Center](#).

FULL TERM WITHDRAWALS

All full-term withdrawals must follow University of Florida policies/ procedures. An approved withdrawal form must be submitted to the [Dean of Student's Office](#) for review and final approval. Students must also notify the Flexible Learning of this request by learn@dce.ufl.edu.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify Flexible Learning of their approved medical or retroactive withdrawal, so the students' record is updated. Email to our office a copy of the approval.

MEDICAL WITHDRAWALS

[Here is the link to start the Medical Withdrawal Process.](#)

RETROACTIVE WITHDRAWALS

[Here is the link for retroactive withdrawal information.](#)

UF OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Be sure to review your "unofficial transcript" first to ensure your grade(s) is/are posted, prior to ordering the "official transcript". There are two ways to order a transcript:

1. [Order UF Official Transcripts here](#)
2. If you are unable to order your official transcript online, please contact the [UF Office of the University Registrar](#).

If you have questions, please read [Official Transcripts FAQs](#).

The Registrar's Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and their phone number is 352-392-1374. Persons with hearing impairments can call FRS # 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

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 page](#).

ASSIGNMENT	TOTAL POINTS
TOTAL	1110
Essay exams	300
Discussions (9)	360
Quizzes (15)	450

Grading guidelines for individual assignments can be found in the course modules. Extra credits totaling 50 points will be awarded for completion of the syllabus quiz, "introduction" discussion, Personal Study Schedule activity, and mid-term self-evaluation.

GRADING SCALE

Final grading is based upon the percentage breakdown below:

PERCENT GRADE GRADE POINTS

93 or above	A	4.00
90 – 92	A-	3.67
87 – 89	B+	3.33
83 – 86	B	3.00
80 – 82	B-	2.67

PERCENT GRADE GRADE POINTS

77 – 79	C+	2.33
73 – 76	C	2.00
70 – 72	C-	1.67
67 – 69	D+	1.33
63 – 66	D	1.00
60 – 62	D-	0.67
59 or below	E	0.00

UF POLICIES

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

[The Disability Resource Center](#) (352-392-8565) 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](#). [Register here with the UF Disability Resource Center](#)

The Flexible Learning Office needs to be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course by emailing the Accommodations Letter to learn@dce.ufl.edu.

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](#) 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 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](#).

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: lss.at.ufl.edu/help

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.

QUESTIONS ABOUT FLEXIBLE LEARNING

If you have any questions about the course, please contact the instructor. If you have administrative concerns (e.g., paying for the course, receiving the textbook, etc.), please contact the Flexible Learning Office.

UF FLEX LEARNING OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: learn@dce.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 294-6300

Website: flexible.dce.ufl.edu (Links to an external site.)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday (except Holidays) 8:00am-4:30pm EST

OTHER RESOURCES

Other resources are available at the [UF Distance Learning website](#) for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please [email the Distance Learning office](#) or visit the [UF Distance Learning website](#) to submit a complaint.

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.