

## GEY 118 - 601 CRN 20757 ROCK & MINERAL IDENTIFICATION

**Instructor:** Dr. Libby Prueher

**Office hours:** I am available before and after class, by appointment, and by email.

**Phone:** 720-260-0350 (email preferred)

**Email:** [libby.prueher@rrcc.edu](mailto:libby.prueher@rrcc.edu) (Please send from your RRCC account and please do not use the email link on D2L).

**Class times:** 8:00 am - 3:45 pm

**Class dates:** Friday September 16 and Friday September 30

**Class location:** West Building 2573

**Credit hours:** 1

**Recommended Text:** *Simon & Schuster's Guide to Rocks and Minerals*

**Other Course Materials:** In addition to the recommended text above, a recent edition of any Physical Geology textbook or lab manual would also be useful as a reference. Some handouts of written materials will be provided for your use during class, and other references may be available on D2L. You will need a pencil, eraser, and notepaper.

**General Course Description:** Introduces basic information on the definition, formation, identification, and uses of rocks and minerals. (1 credit hour)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

Identify minerals using physical and some optical properties

Recognize the most abundant rocks of each major rock type

List the modes of occurrence of each major rock type including localities in Colorado

A lot of class time will involve hands-on practice with mineral and rock identification. We will also have a two or three hour **field trip** on Friday, September 30 to see examples of the various rock types in the local area. All students must sign a waiver prior to the field trip, and carpooling is strongly encouraged. Further details will be given on Friday, September 16.

**Attendance and Participation:** Attendance for all parts of this class is mandatory. Missing 5 hours or more will result in your receiving an "F" for your final class grade, regardless of your performance on graded material. Attendance and participation also count directly as 20% of your grade when calculating your average. In addition, there will be graded activities throughout class time, and there is no make-up for any of these for which you are not present. Missing one part of class also usually makes understanding of the next part difficult or impossible, since most of what we will be doing builds upon previous activities. Furthermore, you need to arrive on time each day and after breaks. Tardiness will result in a reduction of your attendance/participation grade, up to the maximum number of points. Likewise, sleeping during class, not pulling your weight in group activities, and any other type of "checking out" will also result in loss of these points.

Per school policy, students who do not attend the first day of class will also be dropped from the class.

Last day to drop class and initiate a tuition refund: **September 17\*\***

Last day to withdraw from a class ("W" recorded, no refund): **September 27\*\***

**\*\* Be sure to consult with appropriate offices on campus, particularly if you receive financial aid or are an international student, as dropping or withdrawing from a course may impact your status.**

**Class Assignments/Exams:** Unless explicitly told otherwise, all of your assignments and exams will be completed INDIVIDUALLY (no collaboration with classmates or anyone else) but will be "open book" for any PRINT notes/references you care to use. Your take-home assignment will be given to you at the end of the day on Saturday, September 30, and you will need to submit your work as a .doc, .docx, .pdf, or .rtf document using the DropBox on D2L no later than **9:00PM on Wednesday, October 5. No late work will be accepted**, so be sure to start early and get any technical help you need with D2L well in advance of the deadline. I will have your final grades posted no later than Saturday, October 7.

**Grading:**

Attendance &amp; Participation: 20 points

Assignments and Quizzes: 40 points

Field Trip Notes: 10 points

Final Assignment (Part 1 and 2): 30 points

Total = 100 points max

Your total out of the maximum of 100 points will be converted to a percentage and a letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 59% and below = F. Incompletes will not be given. Remember, you will receive **ZERO** points for any missed work, and will fail the class if you are absent for more than 5 hours of class time, or be dropped if those hours are the first day.

Students at RRCC are expected to adhere to the policies for academic integrity and the student conduct code described in the Student Handbook. All students in this class will sign a pledge to be on their honor to do their own work and to follow these policies. There is a zero tolerance policy for any form of academic dishonesty in this course. Disciplinary action will be taken against any student found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism. Although you will often be working with others in lab, all written work you prepare **MUST** be your own. If your words match those of others, I will assume you copied rather than thinking about the answers yourself. The penalty for being dishonest in this way is far greater than simply getting a wrong answer. If you are unclear whether or not your actions are acceptable, please ask in advance. Any student guilty of any form of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of ZERO for that assignment or exam and will be subject to additional disciplinary action, up to and including failing the course and/or being expelled from the college. See the catalog section on academic integrity: <http://www.rrcc.edu/catalogs/16-17/academic-integrity.htm>

**Syllabus Statement Regarding Mandatory Reporting**

Our College is committed to preserving a safe and welcoming educational environment for all students. As part of this effort, I have an obligation to report certain issues relating to the health and safety of campus community members. I must report to the appropriate College officials any allegation of discrimination or harassment. Sexual misconduct, which includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, and sexual exploitation, is considered a form of discrimination.

In addition to reporting all discrimination and harassment claims, I must report all allegations of dating violence or domestic violence, child abuse or neglect, and/or credible threats of harm to yourself or others. Such reports may trigger contact from a College official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like more information, you may reach the Title IX/EO Coordinator: **Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, 303-914-6224 or [Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu](mailto:Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu)**

Reports to law enforcement can be made at the Red Rocks Campus Police Department behind the Welcome Desk at the Main Entrance or [rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu](mailto:rrpd.dispatch@rrcc.edu) at 303-914-6394.

If you would like a confidential resource, please contact **Deborah Houser, Assistant Director of Human Resources/Deputy Title IX Coordinator, 303-914-6224 or [Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu](mailto:Deborah.houser@rrcc.edu)**

Further information may be found on the College web site: <http://www.rrcc.edu/human-resources/sexual-misconduct>

**RRCC Syllabus Disability Statement**

**ADAAA (Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973:** Red Rocks Community College is committed to access for students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and need assistance or are interested in requesting accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services. Faculty are not obligated to provide accommodations without proper notification by Accessibility Services and accommodations are not retroactive. Students may contact the Access staff by telephone or email to make an intake appointment at 303-914-6733, 720-372-1591(VP) or [access@rrcc.edu](mailto:access@rrcc.edu). Accessibility Services is located in Suite 1182 at the Lakewood campus. More information is available at [www.rrcc.edu/accessibility-services](http://www.rrcc.edu/accessibility-services).

### **Respectful Classroom Standards:**

Higher education classrooms may be thought of as laboratories for life. We can practice respect and tolerance of others from diverse backgrounds and learn from each other. To create a safe learning community, we hold each other to the standard of respect: treating others as we would like to be treated.

At RRCC, our basic code of conduct reflects the value for civility. Our student handbook says:

*Students enrolling at Red Rocks Community College (Red Rocks) assume an obligation for conduct compatible with College objectives. College regulations are based on respect for the rights of others and observance of civil law and current moral standards. Red Rocks students have all the rights and responsibilities of other citizens and are subject to the same federal, state, and local laws as non-students. As members of the College community, students are also subject to the rules and regulations of the College.*

Red Rocks exists for the transmission of knowledge, development of occupational skills, and growth of students. Freedom of inquiry and expression are indispensable to the attainment of these goals. As members of the College community, students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained search for truth.

Within a safe environment, freedom of expression is possible. Safety is the responsibility of each member of the community. A safe environment depends on each individual exercising respect and expecting the same from others. Respect is demonstrated by:

1. Being on time, prepared for class, and staying throughout the entire class period.
2. Keeping an open mind. Listening carefully without interrupting, with the goal of understanding the perspective of others.
3. Being willing to share your opinions and insights verbally and non-verbally in a manner that shows thoughtfulness about the cultural and social sensitivities of others.
4. Asking questions that are relevant to the topic and meant to elicit deeper understanding.
5. Keeping electronic tools that are not required for class participation turned off and put away.

You can expect the same standards of behavior from this instructor as is expected of you!

### **Disruptive or Dangerous Behavior Policy:**

Persistent behavior that undermines a respectful classroom will be addressed promptly and in a fair and consistent manner. Depending on the level of disruption or danger, immediate action may be taken to restore the classroom to a productive and safe environment. This may include being asked to step outside to speak individually with the professor, being given a verbal warning, being asked to leave the classroom, a referral to the RRCC behavior intervention team, a call to campus police, or suspension from attending classes.

**Tentative List of Topics:**

*On Saturday, September 16, we will take a 15- 30 minute field trip to look at some rocks and geologic processes on the Red Rocks Campus. On Saturday, September 30 we will take a 2 - 3 hour field trip visiting local points of geologic interest. Be sure to wear clothing that is appropriate for changeable weather and footwear suitable for a little hiking. Water and sunscreen should also be brought with you.*

**Friday September 16**

1. Introductions and Course Overview
2. Minerals
3. Rocks, the Rock Cycle, Basic Plate Tectonics
4. Igneous Rocks
5. Hand -out Assignment 1 (due Saturday September 30)

**Friday, September 30**

6. Minerals and Igneous Rocks Quiz
7. Sedimentary Rocks
8. Metamorphic Rocks
9. Field Trip
10. Putting it All Together
11. Final Assignment Part 1
12. Instructions for Take-Home Assignment (Final Assignment Part 2) Due Wednesday, October 5 at 9 pm.
13. Course Evaluations

**Acknowledgment of the RRCC Student Conduct Code (GEY 118, Fall 2016):**

"I pledge to abide by the RRCC Student Conduct Code. I will be academically honest in all of my coursework and will not tolerate the academic dishonesty of others."

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledgment of Syllabus for this course (GEY 118, Fall 2016):**

"I have received the syllabus and understand the work load, grading policy, responsibilities, and expectations for this class."

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_