Lectures: MWF 1:10 pm – 2:00 pm, PSC 210  
Labs: Meet individually by section, EWS 102 or EWS 104

Instructor: **Christian Cicimurri** (pronounced chee-chee-more-ee)  
Office: EWS 511 or MCKS 311  
Phone: 777-4477  
Email: cicimurri@sc.edu *(this is your best option)*  
Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 2-3 pm, or by appointment  
(email with times you’re available and ‘GEOL 101’ in the subject)

**BULLETIN INFORMATION**  
GEOL 101 - Introduction to the Earth (4 credit hours)  
3 lectures and 1 laboratory session each week

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**  
*This course introduces the science of Geology, with an emphasis on the physical processes that form and transform the Earth, especially those that impact humans. Sample topics include, but are not limited to, the following: rocks & minerals, plate tectonics, fossils & evolution, geologic time, earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain building, streams & ocean processes, glaciers and global climate changes.*

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
*Upon successful completion of this course, you will:*
1. Have a basic understanding of the scientific method  
2. Be able to explain the main processes that formed and change the Earth  
3. Comprehend the basic concepts of plate tectonics, the rock cycle, and geologic time  
4. Know how to interpret the significance of popular media reports about the Earth  
5. Be able to apply the language of science, and in particular, Earth science  
6. Understand the ways in which Earth science impacts society on a daily basis

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**  

Lab Manual: *Laboratory Manual and Workbook for GEOL 101*  
You’ll need your own spiral bound copy. It can be purchased from Quick Copy in the Russell House (777-3820) after August 19. Quick Copy hours are weekdays 8am – 4:30pm.  
This manual is MANDATORY; lab instructors will not have copies for you to use.

Participation: i>clicker remote  
You can use any i>clicker product (i>clicker, i>clicker +, or i>clicker 2). i>clicker GO has been discontinued; however, REEF polling *may* be offered if internet connectivity is adequate.
Grading
Lecture Participation  10% (evaluated by i>clicker remote/REEF app)
Laboratory Participation 30%
Exams  60% (calculated from 3 highest exam grades)
Extra Credit maximum of 5 points to final average

Grades will be assigned as follows, rounded up or down to the nearest hundredth by Microsoft Excel. For example, 89.48 will be rounded to 89, however 89.58 will be rounded to 90.
90-100% A  80-89% B  70-79% C  60-69% D  Below 59% F

Class Participation
Participation in lectures will be assessed using a classroom response system (called i>clicker). This system will help me evaluate what concepts you understand, as well as record your class participation. Questions will be drawn from lectures and readings, and should help you to review important concepts for exams. You earn 1 point for each correct answer, and ½ point for a wrong answer. Your percentage score on the i>clicker portion of the course will be multiplied by 10% to determine your course points for this segment. Anyone with 85% or more on i>clicker points will receive 10 points (that’s FULL CREDIT) for participation. The i>clicker remote/REEF app is required for this class.

I will begin to record participation through i>clicker on Friday, August 26th.
For this to work, it is important for everyone to participate fairly – each student should only have THEIR OWN i>clicker remote. I fully understand the desire to send your remote in with a friend to preserve participation points, but this is cheating. Throughout the semester, there will be random attendance inspections. If your clicker has been used to participate but you are not present on that day, you will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity. Any student found dishonestly participating in class will also lose all 10 participation points.

Attendance Policy:
When you miss class, you miss important information. If you are absent, YOU are responsible for learning the material covered in class. You will not be able to recover participation points if you are not in class (you aren’t participating if you aren’t in class). I will make the lecture slides available on Blackboard, however I do this as a courtesy and to help you study. I am not required to make them available. Legitimate absences, like a court hearing, funeral, or illness, may be excused only if proper documentation is provided.

Exams
Exams will be based on lecture material, textbook readings, and lab activities. There will be 3 non-cumulative, 1-hour exams consisting of 50 multiple choice or true/false questions. The first 2 exams will be given during the normal class meetings, while the 3rd mandatory exam will be during Final Exam week on December 9, at 12:30pm in PSC 210 (the lecture room). If you miss an exam for ANY reason, or want to improve your exam grade, you may take a CUMULATIVE MAKE-UP EXAM on Monday, Nov. 21 during lecture. This is the Monday before Thanksgiving, so please make your holiday plans accordingly.
Exams will only be given on the scheduled days, and no additional make-up exams will be offered.
LAB EXERCISES
This course has a REQUIRED laboratory component; therefore, you are automatically registered for a lab section. Attendance in all lab meetings is MANDATORY and no make-up labs will be offered, so absences will significantly affect your lab grade. You may purchase copy of the lab manual from Quick Copy in the Russell House basement (there is no eBook and instructors will not have photocopies). Lab meetings begin during the first full week of class (August 22nd – 26th). Lab grades are evaluated by performance on in-class assignments and activities. **There are NO lab quizzes or exams, however material covered in lab will be included in lecture exams.**

If you have any problems with labs (attendance, grading, content), please first contact your lab instructor or the Lab Coordinator (Patrick Duff [pduff@geol.sc.edu](mailto:pduff@geol.sc.edu)).

Lab Instructors:

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<tr>
<th>Sections 17 &amp; 21</th>
<th>Section 25</th>
<th>Section 19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ali Al-Janabi</td>
<td>Paul Beguelin</td>
<td>Patrick Duff</td>
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<tr>
<td>EWS 211</td>
<td>EWS 518</td>
<td>EWS 207</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:aaljanabi@geol.sc.edu">aaljanabi@geol.sc.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:pbeguelin@geol.sc.edu">pbeguelin@geol.sc.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:pduff@geol.sc.edu">pduff@geol.sc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Sections 15, 16 &amp; 20</th>
<th>Sections 14, 18 &amp; 22</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Ollman</td>
<td>Ryan Waldman</td>
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<tr>
<td>EWS 211</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jollmann@email.sc.edu">jollmann@email.sc.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rwalman@email.sc.edu">rwalman@email.sc.edu</a></td>
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EXTRA CREDIT
Class participation can count toward potential extra credit points (see that section for details). I will also periodically offer extra credit activities during the semester (details will be announced as opportunities arise). Extra credit assignments are optional, and may contribute up to 5 points to your final grade. No individual extra credit will be assigned that is not available to the entire class.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS
Readiness to learn means that you come to class having read the assigned material, and that you are prepared to participate. In addition, successful students will:

- Attend lectures and take notes. Writing your notes (rather than typing them) is more effective.
- Complete all assigned readings.
- Attend lab and complete all lab assignments.
- Prepare for exams by reviewing lecture notes, readings, and by utilizing chapter study guides.
- Consider studying with a partner or small study group. Self-tests are more useful than just reading notes. Use the online study guide: [http://wnorton.com/college/geo/essgeo4/welcome.aspx](http://wnorton.com/college/geo/essgeo4/welcome.aspx)
- Check Blackboard often for announcements and posted course content.
CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR
You are expected to behave in a manner befitting a university student in class. Any deviations that produce distractions for other students or the instructor may result in ejection from the class or being dropped from the class roster. This prohibition includes the use of computers and other electronic devices to monitor Twitter or Facebook, watch movies, play video games or any other recreational activity. It might be quiet, but the students behind you see what you are doing and, therefore, are distracted. All you should need is a notebook, pen/pencil, and a participation device (i>clicker/REEF app). Use of electronic devices (laptops, phones, tablets) during class time for anything other than taking notes or participation is prohibited.

IMPORTANT DATES
8/24 – Last day to drop without a grade of W
8/26 – i>clicker participation begins
9/5 – LABOR DAY, classes cancelled
9/21 – Exam 1
10/10 – Semester midpoint AND last day to drop without a grade of WF
10/13-14 – Fall Break, classes cancelled
10/26 – Exam 2
11/21 – Cumulative MAKE-UP Exam
11/23-25 - THANKSGIVING, classes cancelled
12/2 – Last day of class
12/9 – FINAL Exam, 12:30pm in PSC 210

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
You are expected to practice the highest possible standards of academic integrity. Any deviation from this expectation will result in a minimum academic penalty of your failing the assignment, and will result in additional disciplinary measures including referring you to the Office of Academic Integrity. Violations of the University’s Honor Code include, but are not limited to using another student’s work, using another student’s i>clicker in class, and any other form of academic misrepresentation. For more information, please see the Honor Code at http://www.housing.sc.edu/academicintegrity/honorcode.html.

Remember that the first tenet of the Carolinian Creed is, “I will practice personal and academic integrity.”

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS
Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, contact the Office of Student Disability Services: 777-6142, TDD 777-6744, email sasds@mailbox.sc.edu, or stop by LeConte College, Room 112A. All accommodations must be approved through the Office of Student Disability Services. https://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/

I reserve the right to adjust this syllabus and the course schedule as necessary during the semester.