INTRODUCTION to EARTH SCIENCE
ESCI 121 Section 1 - CASEP
SPRING 2018

class meetings: M, W 9:00 - 10:40 AM, BBH 120

text: no required text (see notes regarding course resources)
course website: access public webpage for course via link in D2L or through:
http://homepages.neiu.edu/~jmhemzac/homepage.htm (hint: google ‘hemzacek’)

COURSE INFORMATION
This class is a specifically designated part of the CASEP program, offering an introduction to the physical
aspects of earth science in the context of preparation for your future career as a teacher.

Description (from catalog): Basic concepts of geology, meteorology, oceanography, and the solar system.
Discussion of topics of current interest in the earth sciences. Laboratory involves the study of minerals, rocks,
maps and weather instruments. Lecture 2 hours, lab 2 hours. Credit Hours: 3.0

Prerequisite: (MATH-091 - 499 or MATH-091A - 499Z or NEIU Math Placement Result 02 - 45 or ACT Math 19 - 36 or Accuplacer
Elementary Algebra 060 - 084 or Accuplacer College Level Math-020 - 120).

COURSE OBJECTIVES
After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- Describe the earth as a dynamic planet: the product of various earth processes.
- Describe the structure of the earth and the nature of solid earth materials.
- Apply the basic tools and techniques to study earth processes and earth materials.
- Explain the significance and components of plate tectonics as a scientific theory, and interpret earth form
  and process with respect to this geologic framework.
- Describe the various physical processes (from within and on the surface) which shape our planet, and
  explain the sources of energy for each of these dynamic processes.
- Discuss the nature and causes of geologic hazards, including earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, floods,
  and severe weather, as the result of intrinsic earth processes.

STUDENT TASKS / REQUIREMENTS
Exams will integrate concepts and practical applications. Each exam will cover new material, but will also
incorporate key concepts upon which we build throughout the semester. There are NO make-up exams.

A term project will be presented, both orally and in poster form. Details about the project, including specific
deliverables and a rubric for evaluation, are provided in separate documents.

Homework will be assigned more or less on a weekly basis, submitted to D2L unless otherwise designated.
Assignments are due as specified. Within 24 hours, a 20% penalty is assessed: no credit for later assignments.
Refer to Homework Criteria for details about required format and grading of assignments.

Labs are in-class activities, usually working in small groups, and turned in either at the end of the lab session or
beginning of next lab, as directed. Because of the nature of these activities, make-ups are only possible under
extenuating circumstances.

Occasional ungraded in-class activities (other than labs) will be collected as part of the class contribution
element; no make-ups are possible for these opportunities. Class contributions include team citizenship, which
includes respecting others, putting forth your best effort, actively participating/contributing, and following through
on individual responsibility for work. This “extra credit” can boost you to the next letter grade… but will not
substitute for missed course elements.

Grading Policies and Grade Calculation:
The final course grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exercise</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term project</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab activities/ in-class work</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class contributions</td>
<td>+2%        (&quot;extra credit&quot;)</td>
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All course requirements must be completed to pass the course.
The grading scale is as follows:
A 100-90%;  B 89-80%;  C 79-70%;  D 69-60%;  F 59% and lower.