

## Lower Division Earth & Planetary Science Courses

The lower division courses listed below are taken from the UNM 2006-2007 Catalog, and represent our current listing of courses. Please note that not all courses are offered every year, and that not all courses are offered on a regular basis. Please consult the "Current Course Information"; for the schedule of classes offered in the current semester.

The key to the symbols used in the listing may be found at the end of the document. Please consult UNM's complete catalog or the degree requirements given on our web page (<http://epswww.unm.edu>) for more detailed information. While we have attempted to be accurate here, we are not responsible for errors in these listings; the UNM Catalog (<http://www.unm.edu/~unmreg/catalog.htm>) is the authoritative source for this information. Questions regarding listed courses may be directed via Email to [epsdept@unm.edu](mailto:epsdept@unm.edu).

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### **101. How the Earth Works—An Introduction to Geology. (3)**

A fascinating tour of our active planet. Explore earth materials (rocks and minerals), the continents' motions and related origins of earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain building, oceans, landscapes, natural energy and economic resources, global warming and other topics. Students are encouraged but not required to enroll concurrently in 105L.

Meets New Mexico Lower Division General Education Common Core Curriculum Area III: Science (NMCCN 1114).

### **105L. Physical Geology Laboratory. (1)**

Minerals, rocks and topographic and geologic maps; field trips.

Meets New Mexico Lower Division General Education Common Core Curriculum Area III: Science (NMCCN 1114).

Pre- or corequisite: 101. {Fall, Spring}

### **106. Evolution and Age of the Earth. (2) Sharp**

The scientific method applied to determination of the age of the earth, origin of life, evolution of the Earth and of life, extinction, life on other worlds and related topics.

Intended for non-science majors.

### **110. Topics in the Earth Sciences. (1-3 to a maximum of 3) Δ**

Eight- to 16-week courses on selected topics relating directly to the human experience, e.g., Volcanoes, Extinctions, Weather, Earthquakes, New Mexico's Water, Soils, Nuclear Hazards, Geomagnetism, Albuquerque Field Geology and the Geology of Everyday Life. {Fall, Spring}

### **115. Geological Disasters. (3)**

Causes and effects of disastrous geological events, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, landslides and floods.

### **201L. Earth History. (4) Elrick, Smith**

Origin and history of the Earth including age of the planet and dating of rocks, changing configurations of oceans and continents as a result of plate tectonics, records of climate change, history of formation and erosion of mountain chains, origin and evolution of life and causes of extinction. Required field trip and lab exercises permit understanding of how Earth history is interpreted from the geologic rock record.

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Meets New Mexico Lower Division General Education Common Core Curriculum Area III: Science.

Prerequisite: 101 or ENVS 101; Pre- or corequisite: 105L or ENVS 102L. {Fall, Spring}

### **203. Earth Resources and Environment.** [Earth Resources and Man.] (3)

Geologic context for the occurrence of metals, industrial minerals, water, and energy resources on Earth. Environmental ramifications of resource exploration, exploitation and use and local, national and global environmental laws and treaties governing those activities.

Prerequisite: 101 or ENVS 101 recommended.

### **210. Life in the Universe.** (3) Brearley

This course will examine scientifically the plausibility of life occurring elsewhere in the universe including possible environments and conditions for life and the recent debate over the evidence for life in Martian meteorite, ALH 84001.

### **211. Dinosaurs and Their World.** (3) Lucas, Williamson

Survey of the fossil record, evolution, paleobiology and extinction of dinosaurs, and the animals they shared the earth with. {Spring}

### **225. Oceanography.** (3)

Understanding physical, chemical, and biological processes in the world oceans. {Fall, Spring}

### **250. Geology of New Mexico.** (3) Kues

Survey of geologic features of New Mexico including structures, land forms, stratigraphy, fossils, geologic history and mineral resources. A course in elementary geology recommended.

### **251. Meteorology.** (3) Gutzler

(Also offered as GEOG 251.) Description of weather phenomena, principles of atmospheric motion, weather map analysis and weather prediction.

### **252. Volcanoes!** (3) Fischer

Types of volcanoes and eruption products, role of volcanism in planetary evolution, volcanoes as sources of geothermal energy and mineral deposits, volcanic hazards and disasters, environmental effects of volcanic eruptions.

Prerequisite: 101 or ENVS 101.

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### **Key to Symbols used in course descriptions:**

L Part of the course is laboratory work; hours of lecture and laboratory are given at end of description.

( ) Semester hours' credit; credit-hours separated by a hyphen (1-3) indicates variable credit in the course.

[ ] Former course number or title.

{ } Session in which course is expected to be offered Session offered for other courses not indicating this information must be obtained from department chairperson.