

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**  
**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title: Physical Geology Lecture**

**Course Abbreviation and Number: GLG 1511**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Course Type: LR**

**Course Description:** In this classical introduction to geology, students will identify and explain the geologic processes operating on and beneath Earth's surface, including mineral and rock formation, plate tectonics, deformation, orogeny, weathering, erosion, transport, and deposition. Landforms resulting from geologic processes will be interpreted. This course is designed for science majors as a gateway to more advanced coursework in biology and related disciplines but also serves non-science majors who need a general education course with a lab.

Eligibility: ENG 1510 without supports or Corequisite: ENG 1510 with supports and Corequisite MAT 0550 or Eligibility: College Level Math; Corequisite: GLG 1512.

**General Education Requirements Met:**

**SUNY**

Natural Sciences

**JCC**

Scientific Reasoning

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Describe and classify common minerals and rocks, explain their origin through the rock cycle and related geologic processes, and identify them through observation, testing, and analysis.
2. Apply concepts of geologic time, Earth's surface and interior processes, and plate tectonics to interpret geologic features and landscapes using maps, cross-sections, and other visual data.
3. Application of scientific data, concepts, and models in one of the natural sciences. [SUNY Gen Ed – Natural Sciences SLO 2]

**Topics Covered:**

- Earth Structure
  - Introduction
  - Earth's Interior
  - The Sea Floor
  - Plate tectonics
  - Geologic Structures
  - Earthquakes – Mtn. Building
  - EQS
- Rocks and Minerals and Rock Formation
  - Minerals
  - Igneous Rocks and Volcanoes
  - Weathering
  - Mass Wasting
  - Sedimentary Rocks
  - Metamorphic Rocks
- Geologic Time
- Hydrosphere

- Streams
  - Groundwater
  - Glaciers
  - Deserts
  - Shorelines
- Resources

**Information for Students:**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- Accessibility Services: <https://www.sunyjcc.edu/accessibility>
- Get Help: <https://www.sunyjcc.edu/gethelp>
- Emergency closings: <https://www.sunyjcc.edu/jccalert>
- Course grades are determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	A	B+	B	C+	C	D+	D	F
<b>Numerical Grade</b>	4.0	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	0

- Veterans and active-duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.

**Effective Term: Fall 2026**