**Geology (GEO)**

**GEO 1010. Introduction to Geology (PS). 3 Hours.**
Fulfills Physical Science General Education requirement. Focuses on the physical dynamics of the natural environment, delineating its geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere components, and their global patterns of interaction. Highlights the processes of science that underpin this systemic view of the world. Emphasizes issues of resource availability, along with their political and social ramifications. Particular emphasis is placed on the challenges natural hazards present to civilization, worldwide. The extraordinary geology of the region surrounding DSU is featured in many textbook and lecture examples. One field trip required. GEO 1015 OR GEO 2000R lab course recommended. Inclusive Access Course Material (electronic book) fees may apply, see Fees tab under each course section for details. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to:** 1. Explain how the scientific method works and outlining how it is employed. 2. Explain the formation of the Earth and Solar System. 3. Explain and model the fundamentals of how plate tectonics works, including the formation of geologic structures and the mechanics of earthquakes. 4. Explain what minerals are and how they are classified. 5. Identify the three types of rocks (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic), explaining how they form, and detailing their classifications. 6. Explain how surface processes work, generate and transport sediment, and shape the Earth’s surface. 7. Explain how stratigraphic and radiometric dating work and are used in determining the age of a rock. 8. Explain how and why Earth’s climate varies over time and how humans affect the climate. 9. Identify various geological natural resources and explaining how they form and are obtained. Course fee required. Corequisites: GEO 1015. FA, SP, SU.

**GEO 1015. Introduction to Geology Lab (LAB). 1 Hour.**
A laboratory course to be taken concurrently with Geology 1010. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to:** 1. Explain and employ the scientific method. 2. Identify and classify sedimentary rocks, and explaining their sediments transport and forming. 3. Demonstrate knowledge of and appreciation for the internal and external processes on Earth today. 4. Identify and describe Earth materials and landforms. 5. Apply basic geologic principles to understand the orders, rates, and superimposition of dynamic geologic processes. 6. Integrate and apply information learned in lecture and exercises in the field. Course fee required. GEO 1010. FA, SP.

**GEO 1020. Life of the Past (PS). 3 Hours.**
Fulfills General Education Physical Science requirement for non-Science majors. General survey of historical Geology focusing on the relationship between the tectonic history of the Earth, the evolution of life through time, and the histories of the Earth and life and the complex interactions between them. GEO 1025 lab course recommended but not required. One field trip required. Offered upon sufficient student need. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to:** 1. Understand what science is, how science works, and how science progresses. 2. Understand the basis of physical sciences (especially geology) and evolution, and communicate scientific ideas via written and/or oral assignments. 3. Demonstrate knowledge of and appreciation for the internal and external processes on Earth today. 4. Identify and describe Earth materials and landforms. 5. Apply basic geologic principles to understand the orders, rates, and superimposition of dynamic geologic processes. 6. Integrate and apply information learned in lecture and exercises in the field. Course fee required.

**GEO 1040. Introduction to Dinosaurs (PS). 3 Hours.**
Fulfills General Education Physical Science requirement. Utilizes the popular subject matter of dinosaurs to teach basic principles of geology, biology, physics, chemistry, and astronomy, with some basic math (algebra). Successful completion of this interdisciplinary course contributes to an understanding of science and scientific concepts as well as their applications in a multitude of disciplines. GEO 1045 lab course recommended but not required. One field trip required. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to:** 1. Explain and employ the scientific method. 2. Explain and model the fundamentals of how plate tectonics works, including the formation of geologic structures. 3. Identify the three types of rocks (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic), explaining how they form, and detailing their classifications. 4. Identify the types of fossils and detailing how they form, how they occur in sedimentary rocks, and how sedimentary rocks tell about ancient environments. 5. Explain how stratigraphic and radiometric dating work and are used in determining the age of a rock or fossil. 6. Identify various vertebrate skeletal anatomical structures. 7. Identify and exploring the principles of evolution and systematics as a classification system based on evolution. 8. Accurately reading cladograms and explaining how they are generated. 9. Identify the kinds of dinosaurs in a systematic and anatomical framework. 10. Explain how we understand dinosaurs as living animals - their restoration, behavior, diet, reproduction, physiology, growth, and extinction. Course fee required. FA.

**GEO 1045. Introduction to Dinosaurs Laboratory (LAB). 1 Hour.**
A laboratory course to be taken concurrently with GEO 1040. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to:** 1. Explain and employ the scientific method. 2. Identify and classify sedimentary rocks, and explaining how their sediments are generated and how they affect fossilization. 3. Explain and model the fundamentals of how plate tectonics works, including the formation of geologic structures. 4. Identify the types of fossils. 5. Explain how sedimentary processes work and can be recognized, and the basics of taphonomy. 6. Explain how stratigraphic and radiometric dating work and are used in determining the age of a rock. 7. Identify various vertebrate anatomical structures and hypothesizing their functional morphologies. 8. Explain evolution by natural selection. 9. Employ the fundamentals of phylogenetic practices. 10. Identify basic characteristics of ornithischian and saurischian dinosaurs and hypothesize their functions. Course fee required. Corequisite: GEO 1040. FA.
GEO 1050. Geology of the National Parks (PS). 3 Hours.
Fulfills General Education Physical Science requirement. General survey of Physical Geology emphasizing the geology of Utah’s scenic national parks and monuments, as well as state parks, to investigate the geologic history of and processes shaping the region, inherent geologic hazards, and natural resource use and availability. Inclusive Access Course Material fees may apply, see Fees tab under each course section for details. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the skills required to make informed personal and social decisions about the issues that we will face locally as well as globally. 2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic fundamental laws, concepts, and theories in the physical sciences and be able to apply them to everyday life. 3. Be able to explain and apply the scientific method. 4. Demonstrate knowledge of the process of science by being able to utilize data in the form of tables, graphs, and charts through interpretation and then communicate those finding in oral and or written form. 5. Develop a basic understanding of the internal and external processes acting on the earth. 6. Identify and describe the origin and development of landforms found in the various National Parks of the southwest. 7. Identify and describe the earth materials. 8. Apply the principles of geologic time to analyze the rates of geologic processes related to the National Parks of the southwest. 9. Integrate information learned in class and laboratory studies to evaluate geologic processes in the field. Corequisite: GEO 1055. SP.

GEO 1055. Geology National Parks Lab (LAB). 1 Hour.
Field trip portion of GEO 1050. A seven day field trip featuring national parks and monuments, usually over Spring Break, to experience geologic processes shaping the landscape, interpret past environments/climates that created the resources utilized by society, and observe first-hand how our Earth has changed through geologic time and, in fact, is ever-changing. Requires hiking on park trails over uneven surfaces for average of three miles a day. Elevations up to 8300 feet. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Demonstrate knowledge of basic fundamental laws, concepts, and theories in the physical sciences and be able to apply them to everyday life. 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the process of science to interpret data in the form of tables, graphs, and charts and communicate those finding in oral and or written form. 3. Develop a basic understanding of the internal and external processes acting on the earth. 4. Identify and describe the origin and development of landforms found in the various National Parks of the southwest. 5. Apply the principles of geologic time to analyze the rates of geologic processes related to the National Parks of the southwest. 6. Integrate information learned in class and laboratory studies to evaluate geologic processes in the field. Course fee required. Corequisite: GEO 1050. SP.

GEO 1080. Introduction to Oceanography (PS). 3 Hours.
Fulfills General Education Physical Science requirement. Conveys the essential principles of ocean science, including an understanding of the earth's oceans focusing on sea floor topography and composition, plate tectonics, seawater dynamics and chemistry, atmospheric and ocean currents, waves, coastal land forms, and marine life as well as recognition of the close linkage of weather, climate, and humans to the oceans. GEO 1085 lab course recommended but not required. Offered upon sufficient student need. Inclusive Access Course Material (electronic book) fees may apply, see Fees tab under each course section for details. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Differentiate science from non-science by recognizing hypotheses, theories, and/or laws that meet the criteria of science and use the scientific process/method. 2. Describe geologic and geographic features of Oceanic features and their formation as part of plate tectonics, including a full description of the Theory of Plate Tectonics, the history of its development, its mechanisms and processes that shape Earth both internally and externally. 3. Explain the formation and potential geologic hazards of the geographic landforms in each section of the major Oceanic provinces. 4. Identify the Ocean's biological, physical, and chemical constituents including economically important natural resources, describe their importance and renewability, where they are located and how they might be recovered, managed, and protected. 5. Articulate an understanding of both relative (stratigraphic) and absolute (radiometric) geologic time using these concepts to interpret physical and biological events in Earth history, and how these events relate to biological evolution including natural and anthropogenic activities. FA.

GEO 1085. Intro to Oceanography Lab (LAB). 1 Hour.
A laboratory course in oceanography. Lab fee required for travel to marine laboratories and coastal regions in California. Offered upon sufficient student need. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Develop an integrated understanding of oceanographic processes and the following CLOs through an intensive 4-day field experience. 2. Differentiate science from non-science by recognizing hypotheses, theories, and/or laws that meet the criteria of science and use the scientific process/method. 3. Describe the theory of plate tectonics, including the history of its development, its mechanisms and processes that shape Earth both internally and externally, including distinguishing geologic and geographic features of Oceanic features and their formation as part of plate tectonics. 4. Explain the formation and potential geologic hazards of the geographic landforms in each section of the major Oceanic provinces. 5. Identify the Ocean's biological, physical, and chemical constituents including economically important natural resources, describe their importance and renewability, where they are located and how they might be recovered, managed, and protected. 6. Articulate an understanding of both relative (stratigraphic) and absolute (radiometric) geologic time using these concepts to interpret physical and biological events in Earth history, and how these events relate to biological evolution as well as natural and anthropogenic activities. Course fee required.

GEO 1110. Physical Geology (PS). 3 Hours.
Fulfills a General Education Physical Science requirement for students majoring in the Sciences or Engineering, including Civil Engineering, Geology, Range Management, Forestry, etc. Covers the study of the physical features of the earth and the processes that shape those features. Successful completion gives students the background necessary for further study in the sciences. Inclusive Access Course Material (electronic book) fees may apply, see Fees tab under each course section for details. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Demonstrate knowledge of basic fundamental laws, concepts, and theories in the physical sciences required to make informed personal and social decisions about local and global issues. 2. Explain and apply the scientific method. 3. Identify major rock forming minerals as well as the rocks in the three major groups and explain both their formation and use as natural resources. 4. Distinguish between the major internal and external processes acting upon the earth and identify various landforms created by those processes. 5. Apply the principles of geologic time to analyze the rates of geologic processes. Corequisites: GEO 1115. FA.
GEO 2220. Historical Geology. 3 Hours.
Conceptual examinations of how the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithospheres interact to create major structural and stratigraphic features (emphasizing North America) and how life has evolved through deep time. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Outline the history of how modern geology was developed. 2. Explain how stratigraphic and radiometric dating work and are used in determining the age of a rock. 3. Explain the natures of sedimentary rocks and their depositional environments and how they can be interpreted and inferred from the stratigraphic record. 4. Explain what fossils are and how they are useful in interpreting the stratigraphic record. 5. Explain how evolution works and has produced the lineages recorded in the fossil record. 6. Explain and modeling the fundamentals of how plate tectonics works. 7. Outline the major geological events during Earth history. 8. Outline the major evolutionary events during Earth history. Course fee required. Prerequisite: GEO 1110. FA.

Fulfills General Education Laboratory Sciences requirement. Provides an opportunity for students to study topics such as depositional environments, plate tectonics, gradation, rock dating, geologic time, Earth history, and environmental issues in a field research setting through travel to Grand Canyon, Zion, and Bryce Canyon National Parks. The class will be held over a 4-5 day period. Overnight stays at the Tanner Field Station required. Repeatable up to 2 credits. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Examine evidence of climate change both in ancient and modern times. 2. Learn basic scientific processes used to develop hypotheses and theories. 3. Gain greater insight into the enormous length of geologic time and evidences that support this claim. 4. Learn the different ways that scientists can determine geologic ages. 5. Understand agents of gradation, particularly how the hydrologic cycle helps to shape the Earth. 6. Learn how the different subsystems of the Earth system interact as open systems as they exchange not just energy, but matter. 7. Know where and when the basic rock and mineral types form and how they are related to tectonic and hydrologic cycles. 8. Be able to identify common rocks and minerals. 9. Demonstrate the relationship between geological processes and resources and human activities. 10. Understand how plate tectonics works, including the role of the different types of plate boundaries and the forces that help drive the system. 11. Learn how tectonism has helped shape the Earth's surface. Course fee required. FA, SU.

GEO 2700R. Field Methods in Geoscience Research. 1 Hour.
A preparatory course for undergraduate participation in collaborative research projects in the geosciences. Repeatable for a max of 3 credits. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Develop skills in collecting and organizing scientific data from field investigations. 2. Consider how concepts and skills acquired in coursework can be developed through interdisciplinary research. 3. Develop a hypothesis for a research project in the geosciences or related sciences, and devise a protocol to test that hypothesis. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Develop skills in collecting and organizing scientific data from field investigations. 2. Consider how concepts and skills acquired in coursework can be developed through interdisciplinary research. 3. Develop a hypothesis for a research project in the geosciences or related sciences, and devise a protocol to test that hypothesis. Course fee required. Prerequisites: GEO 1110 and GEO 1115 (Both grade C- or higher).
GEO 2990R. Seminar in Geology. 1 Hour.
For students wishing instruction that is not available through other regularly scheduled courses in this discipline. Occasionally, either students request some type of non-traditional instruction, or an unanticipated opportunity for instruction presents itself. This seminar course provides a variable credit context for these purposes. As requirements, this seminar course must first be pre-approved by the department chair; second, it must provide at least nine contact hours of lab or lecture for each credit hour offered; and third, it must include some academic project or paper (i.e., credit is not given for attendance alone). This course may include standard lectures, travel and field trips, guest speakers, laboratory exercises, or other non-traditional instruction methods. Repeatable up to 3 credits subject to graduation restrictions. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Identify potential opportunities as a geology degree graduate. 2. Evaluate professional materials that will be needed to apply for summer and post-graduate jobs and programs. 3. Collaborate with faculty, peer students, and guest speakers in a professional setting. 4. Develop professional skills for interviews and collaborative settings. SP.

GEO 3000. Advanced Geologic Investigation of Colorado Plateau Basin and Range provinces through national parks. 3 Hours.
Provides students an opportunity to engage in an advanced study of topics such as depositional environments, plate tectonics, gradation, rock dating, geologic time, Earth history, and environmental issues in a field research setting through travel to Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, Canyonlands, Great Basin, and Death Valley National Parks. The class requires two camping trips of 3-4 overnight stays, one of which is over Fall Break, plus two to three 1-day trips. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Collect and record geologic field observations/data including rock properties and structural/stratigraphic relationships. 2. Communicate geologic data and hypotheses to scientific peers. 3. Explain geological data products such as maps, cross sections, and stratigraphic columns to evaluate hypotheses about the depositional environments and tectonic history of the southwestern U.S. 4. Describe and evaluate hypotheses about the landscape evolution of notable landforms in the southwestern U.S. Course fee required. Prerequisites: GEO 1110 and 1115 (Both Grade C or higher). FA (odd).

GEO 3060. Environmental Geology. 3 Hours.
Geological attributes of environmental settings with emphasis on the analysis of geologic conditions pertinent to resource availability, urban planning, recognition and assessment of geologic hazards, and environmental issues through geochemical investigation of Earth’s atmosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Apply a Systems Science perspective to Geological topics. 2. Enhance critical thinking skills in the context of Earth sciences. 3. Utilize multiple sources of information to understand geology and make scientific analyses. 4. Develop and present research topics and findings. 5. Consider human interactions with the physical Earth, both human impacts on the environment and environmental hazards to human society. Prerequisites: GEO 1110 (Grade C or higher) AND GEO 1115 (Grade C or higher). FA (odd).

GEO 3180. Paleontology. 4 Hours.
Reviews theories, principles, and applications of paleontology, as well as the characteristics of important groups of fossil organisms and their geologic distributions and paleoecologies. Course includes lab. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Explain the nature of the fossil record. 2. Explain and employ the principles of evolution, speciation, systematics, and extinction. 3. Explain and employ the principles of functional morphology and paleoecology. 4. Explain and employ the principles of paleobiogeography and biostatigraphy. 5. Identify the fundamental characteristics and evolutionary histories of various groups of organisms, including plants, *protists,* poriferans, cnidarians, *lophophorates* (brachiopods and bryozoans), arthropods, molluscs, echinoderms, and chordates via their body and trace fossils. Course fee required. Prerequisites: GEO 1220 and GEO 1225, or instructor permission. FA (even).

GEO 3200. Mineralogy. 4 Hours.
Exploration of the physical, chemical, and optical properties of common rock- and ore-forming minerals through the principles of crystallography, optical microscopy, and analytical chemistry. Three one-hour lectures, and one three-hour lab per week. Laboratories emphasize mineral studies at macro and micro scales, analytical methods, and data processing. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Explain the principles that control the physical properties of minerals as they relate to chemical composition, and atomic structure. 2. Identify symmetry elements and functions of a mineral sample (or model), and correctly identify its corresponding crystal system. 3. Recognize the most common rock and ore-forming minerals and recall their chemical formulas. 4. Describe the nature and causes of various mineral features such as twinning, exsolution, defects, color, polymorphism, and pseudomorphism. 5. Demonstrate a theoretical understanding of various geochemical analytical techniques. 6. Refine analytical data, and effectively communicate the methods, results, and logical interpretations of those data in a scientifically written report. Course fee required. Prerequisites: GEO 1110 and 1115; and MATH 1050 (or higher); and CHEM 1210 and 1215 (All grade C or higher). FA.

GEO 3400. Water Resources. 3 Hours.
A detailed examination of the water cycle, including: precipitation, surface water, ground water, glaciers, water conservation, water management, and water pollution with special emphasis on the water resources of Utah and neighboring areas. Offered upon sufficient student need. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Identify the water resources management issues (water quality and water quantity) in local and global regions. 2. Apply the basic principles of water resources, including hydrologic cycle, surface and groundwater hydrology to understand critical water needs. 3. Utilize quantitative models in water resources and hydrology. 4. Apply the scientific methods and critical thinking to analyze the hydrologic data in water resources management (e.g. surface water, groundwater, water quality). Prerequisites: GEO 1110/1115 AND CHEM 1210/1215.
GEO 3550. Sedimentology & Stratigraphy. 4 Hours.
Sedimentology is the study of the transport, deposition, arrangement, and diagenesis of sediment. Stratigraphy is the interpretation of preserved sedimentary rock layers, which record much of Earth’s geologic history. Both grant insight into depositional environments, tectonic settings, changes in sea level, and climate. In this course, students will learn strategies and techniques to read, interpret, and communicate the sedimentary rock record. Required field trips include one weekend-long regional trip and approximately six local field trips during scheduled lab time. Alternative arrangements will be made for students not able to attend field trips. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs): At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Describe and identify sedimentary rock types and the sedimentary processes and conditions that led to their formation. 2. Collect, analyze, and communicate data characterizing stratigraphic sequences. 3. Use sedimentologic and stratigraphic data to make and test hypotheses about depositional and tectonic environments and geologic history. 4. Make predictions about the types of sedimentary rocks likely to be found in different tectonic environments around the world and in the geologic past. Course fee required. Prerequisites: GEO 1220 AND GEO 1225. SP (odd).

GEO 3700. Structural Geology. 4 Hours.
Examination of the geometries, mechanisms, and mechanics of rock deformation, including stress and strain relationships, fault and fold classification and description and relation to major tectonic features of Earth with application to geological engineering, petroleum geology, mining, water recovery and waste disposal. Labs present techniques to interpret and evaluate deformed rock in map, cross section, and three-dimensional views. Three lecture hours and one 3-hour lab per week. Field trips required. Offered upon sufficient student need. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Identify in the field and interpret both brittle and ductile structural deformation. 2. Conduct a geometric structural analysis that results in the production of a viable geologic cross-section. 3. Construct a kinematic structural analysis in the field and reconstruct possible deformation paths of a given feature. 4. Generate a dynamic structural analysis, formulate constitutive equations for deformation, and quantify the contribution of each deformational mechanism in a region. 5. Perform a fault study to forecast earthquake potential. 6. Assess and justify the best location to drill for water, oil, or gas, predict the location of mineral resources, and/or judge the environmental impact of toxic waste disposal from a set of structural data. Prerequisites: GEO 1110 and 1115; and MATH 1050 or higher level MATH (All grade C or higher).

GEO 3710. Hydrology. 3 Hours.
This course includes the study of some important aspects in the field of hydrology including hydrological cycle and its components such as precipitation, infiltration and evapotranspiration. In this course, students will learn how to collect hydrological data, understand and employ the common numerical methods, and analyze the data to estimate the hydrologic cycle components. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Identify and differentiate the essential components of the hydrologic cycle. 2. Complete engineering hydrology computations and water balance. 3. Analyze experimental hydrological data. 4. Collaborate with other students and serve as effective members of multidisciplinary project teams. Prerequisite: GEO 3550 (Grade C- or higher). SP (odd).

GEO 3910. Applied Geologic Investigation of Iceland. 3 Hours.
Iceland, the land of fire and ice, offers students an experiential learning opportunity to study nearly every basic topic in Geology. Both tectonic processes powered by Earth’s internal energy such as plate boundaries, volcanoes, earthquakes, and geysers, and gradation processes powered by the sun such as glaciers, rivers, shorelines, weathering and erosion are observed first hand. Environmental issues like resource use and its relationship to climate change and utilizing geothermal as a green energy resource to generate electricity are also examined. Course participants will meet for an hour a week during the semester then travel to Iceland for a six day travel abroad experience. Pre-trip classes include the above topics to prepare students to understand their experiences in Iceland. For international travel, see studyabroad.dixie.edu for additional travel costs that may apply. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Identify evidence that meets the criteria of science in recognizing and differentiating hypotheses, theories and/or laws using the resources of Iceland. 2. Apply the concepts of both stratigraphic and radiometric dating to interpret physical and biologic events in Earth history as evidenced in Iceland. 3. Identify Iceland’s geologic and geographic landforms and explain both their formation (origin) and potential geologic hazards. 4. Identify Iceland’s economically important Earth materials and natural resources and their impacts on global climate change, politics, and economics. 5. Describe how the geology of Iceland is explained by the theory of plate tectonics. SP.

GEO 4800R. Independent Research. 1-3 Hours.
An independent research course that allows the students to explore science through the scientific method, and allows close interaction between the student and faculty member to address scientific problems through experiment design and execution. Projects are at the discretion of the faculty member, in line with the student’s interests in the various scientific areas. Repeatable up to 6 credits subject to graduation and program restrictions. Variable credit: 1-3. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Use the scientific method to develop hypothesis for a research project in the environmental sciences, design experiments or identify resources from which to collect data, and draw conclusions from results. 2. Design and modify experiments throughout the progress of a research project. 3. Complete research projects independently while also interacting with other students and faculty that are engaged in the project. 4. Utilize outside resources (scientific databases, literature, etc) to interpret results and compare to existing and previous work in the field of your research project. Prerequisite: GEO 2700R (Grade C- or higher). FA, SP, SU.
GEO 4910. Senior Seminar. 1 Hour.
A seminar course where students will share their research results or literature searches with fellow students and faculty in written and oral formats.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Use the scientific method to develop hypotheses, search literature or utilize results from experimentation, and defend in an oral presentation to faculty and students. 2. Discuss relevant scientific topics in oral presentations in a scientific group setting. 3. Collaborate with other geoscience students and faculty that are engaged in scientific research to analyze data, results, and varying perspectives, and participate in scientific discussions. 4. Utilize outside resources (scientific databases, literature, etc.) to help interpret results and compare to existing and previous work in the field. 5. Prepare written reports that effectively summarize a chosen scientific topic related to the environmental sciences using the vast literature and compiled data. SP.