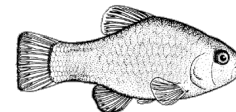


ERTH 132: Death Valley Field Course Syllabus (2 units)

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Course Dates April 9 - 13, 2025 (Wednesday-Sunday)

Textbook: A Field guide will be provided

Course Description: Earth 132 is a five-day/four-night field course to study the geology and geologic history of the Death Valley region. Death Valley contains some of the most spectacular vistas anywhere including places where both the highest and lowest spots in the contiguous United States can be seen simultaneously. Death Valley is also geologically spectacular. Here the rocks reveal the geologic history of the western United States over the last two billion years.

Earth 132 is transferable as a field course to all accredited four-year institutions (e.g. UC, CSU), and satisfies the field science requirement for the SBCC Associate of Arts degree (AA).

Grade Break-Down

- **Field Trip Notebook (40%)**- Your notes will be graded on completeness, neatness, and organization. You will turn in your completed field course notebook prior to returning to Santa Barbara.
- **Daily Quizzes (30%)**- This field course is an academic experience and you should be prepared to work and study during the day and evening. There will be a Time Scale Quiz on Day 2. Plus (x4) daily quizzes, which will assess material from the previous day.
- **Final Exam (25%)**- Open Notes! So take good notes! Dates will be announced after the Field Trip.
- **Expedition Behavior (5%)**- Participation in all lecture stops is mandatory. There will be 5-7 lecture stops each day, including Day 1. Lectures will vary in length from 45 minutes to 2 hours in length. We have long and engaging days that start at sunrise and end by sunset. Expedition Behavior also includes camp chores (see below).

Preparing for the Course

- **Plan ahead in the rest of your courses.** If you have not already talked to your other instructors about missing material and making up work, do so immediately. Most teachers are supportive, but they need advance notice for making up work. The more time the better. Try to get ahead of schedule in as many courses as you can (you will be tired when you get back!) If you have any teachers that are reluctant to allow make-up work, have them contact one of the trip instructors.
- **Arrange a ride.** Carpooling with a non-field trip driver is best. You can park in SBCC student lots if you have all-day parking permits, but we DON'T recommend it, due to past vandalism incidents. Parking on campus is at your own risk.
- **Weather.** You will be outside at the mercy of extremes in weather. The temperature may be in the 90s or 100s during the day and may drop into the 20s at night. The evenings in the desert are not like the mild, balmy evenings in Santa Barbara. During the course, we will be at elevations ranging from below sea level to 3500+ feet. It may rain or snow. Check the weather for Death Valley, CA and Darwin, CA right before you pack.

Pre-Departure Preparation

TUESDAY, April 8, 2025 (the day before the trip)

- Bring your luggage to the EBS loading dock between **7:00 am and 9:00 am on Tuesday morning**. Be sure all of your luggage is clearly labeled. You will not see this gear again until camp the next day.
- If you tend to oversleep..... Set multiple alarms or give each other a call on Wed morning to wake each other up.
- Get a good night's sleep the night before the trip. It makes a big difference!

WEDNESDAY, April 9, 2025, 5:30 am sharp! DON'T BE LATE!!!

- Remember to bring your 3-ring binder, large lunch, one/two filled containers of water, and other “List B” items.
- Check-in at EBS 123 – pick up your notebook and notebook label. You must present your binder at this time.
- **If you show up after we are gone:** You are NOT allowed to follow us in a private vehicle for insurance/liability reasons (school regulations). If you miss the bus, the best course of action is to go home, and then drop the class no later than Thurs for a “W”. No refunds for the field course fee are granted to no-shows (food has already been purchased for you).

On the Road

- First Stop is approximately 2 hours after leaving campus. We won't be stopping en-route, so don't drink too much coffee!
- Lecture stops. Bring your notebook, note-taking materials, and chair to each stop.
- Be prepared to hike short distances over rough terrain. You must wear closed-toed shoes (either tennis shoes or light-weight hiking boots).
- Boarding the vehicles as efficiently as possible. Getting on and off of vehicles can delay our arrival times in camp and/or cut down on time at swimming pool stops. Be efficient.
- Travel between stops - Travel time is academic time. Your attention and participation is expected en-route, unless your instructor indicates otherwise - no cell phones, ipod, etc. use in vehicles. Cell phones or music with earbuds/headphones are allowed in camp until 10:00 p.m. Ask if in doubt.
- Swim/shower stops. We plan on having swim/shower stops during the trip. Washing stations are provided in camp to wash your hands before and after meals. Consider bringing wet wipes or other personal needs.
- Convenience stops. We are unable to stop at any stores with a group this size. Bring everything you need.

Expedition Behavior in Camp

You will be assigned to a work crew and be required to help with daily camp chores. Most work crew assignments are a one-time responsibility although you may be asked to perform other duties such as loading luggage trucks. Your crew assignment will be included in the field guidebook you will be given prior to departure.

Conduct (see the green Standards of Student Conduct sheet for more details)

- As an SBCC student, you have agreed to behave in accordance with the SBCC Standards of Student Conduct. Any violation of student conduct on the field course is grounds for immediate dismissal. Per school policy, the Standards of Student Conduct apply from the moment we leave campus until the moment we return, and all disciplinary measures that would apply on-campus also apply in the field.
- Absolutely **NO alcohol or drugs** (legal or not) are allowed at any time of the day or evening while on the trip.
- No smoking cigarettes or vaping (E-cigarettes) are allowed at any time on the trip. Please prepare accordingly.

Additional Resources

We do not camp at established campgrounds with restrooms and/or shower facilities. You should be prepared to adapt as needed. For equipment list, photos and more, visit: www.sbcc.cc.ca.us/earthscience/erth132_dv.php

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities at Santa Barbara City College. If you have, or think you might have, a disability that impacts your educational experience in this class please contact DSPS to determine your eligibility for accommodations.

DSPS is located in the Student Services (SS) Building, Room 162. Their phone number is 805-730-4164. If you are already registered with DSPS please submit your accommodation requests via the 'DSPS Online Services Student Portal' as soon as possible. *Once submitted and confirmed please visit with me about your specific accommodations.* Please complete this process in a timely manner to allow adequate time to provide accommodations.