

**Sul Ross State University Syllabus**  
**GEOL 4311 Volcanoes of the West**  
**Fall 2019**  
**Monday 6:00-8:50**  
3 Semester Credit Hours

Instructor Information

Instructor: Antony Giles

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Office Hours: MWF 10:00-10:50, MT 1:00-5:00, TR 11:00-11:50 or by appointment

Course Description

This course will provide students with a basic understanding of where and why volcanism occurs with a special emphasis on volcanism in the western United States.

Course Text

There is no required text for this course. Readings will be provided as necessary.

Method of Instruction

This is a lecture-only course that will be taught primarily on Midland College campus with lectures viewed at SRSU in Alpine through the interactive televisual system. Lectures will be conducted using PowerPoint presentations and discussion. All PowerPoints will be provided through the Blackboard e-learning system.

Method of Assessment

Lecture exams: 400 points

Term project: 100 points

Homework: 100 points

There will be 4 exams each consisting of 40 multiple-choice questions worth 2 points each, and 2 essay questions worth 10 points each.

The term project will be detailed in lecture.

Homework will be assigned in lecture.

Grades will be assigned based on the standard scale (i.e. A = 90-100% etc.)

Attendance

Attendance is required.

Class Disruption

Please review the Student Handbook section relating to Student Misconduct for the standard policy that will be followed for instances of class disruption. In general, please be courteous towards the instructor and fellow students.

Plagiarism/Cheating

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please review the Academic Honesty section of the Student Handbook for a description of the SRSU policy on cheating and plagiarism.

### Disability

SRSU is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Grace Duffy in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112 or call 432-837-8203.

### Course Schedule

The following provides a tentative schedule of topics for the semester

Week	Topic
1	Introduction to Volcanology
2	Generation of Magma
3	Why Does Volcanism Occur?
4	Eruptive Products 1: Lava
5	Eruptive Products 2: Pyroclastics
6	Volcanic Landforms
7	Eruptive Styles
8	Petrotectonic Associations
9	Subduction-related Volcanism
10	Rift-related Volcanism
11	Divergent Boundary volcanism
12	Case Studies: Cascades
13	Case Studies: Yellowstone/Snake River Plain
14	Case Studies: Rio Grande Rift
15	Case Studies: Carbonatite Volcanoes
16	Case Studies: West Texas Volcanism