



Santa Barbara City College

Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Earth 131 - Geologic Field Studies Eastern Sierra Nevada

October 16 - 20, 2013

Information Sheet

Earth 131 is a five-day/four-night field course to study the geology and geologic history of the Eastern Sierra Nevada, California. The Sierra contains some of the most spectacular scenery anywhere, including the highest point in the contiguous United States. The Sierra is also geologically spectacular; here the rocks reveal the geologic history of the western United States over the last 500 million years. By studying the rocks and the processes that formed them, we will be able to piece together this history. In addition we will see numerous examples of the geologic and hydrologic processes such as earthquakes, volcanoes, glaciers, and rivers that are actively shaping the mountains today.

Earth 131 is a 2-unit academic course which will require your active participation both during the day and in the evening. You will be expected to take neat and complete field notes, and to prepare for quizzes each morning. You will also need to know the Geologic Time Scale before you depart on the field trip.

Instructional Staff

Bill Dinklage, Michael Robinson and Jan Schultz provide instruction for first-year Earth Sciences students on the trip. **Dr. Jeff Meyer** provides instruction for second-year Earth Sciences students and majors.

Support Staff

Kevin McNichol, Lab/Field technician, organizes and supervises the logistics of the trip and camp setup. He is assisted by a group of volunteer field trip veterans known at the **Woolly Crew**. Staff from the **Hotel, Restaurant, Culinary** Program prepares your meals. Licensed Emergency Medical Technicians, referred to as **Medics**, are available if you have a medical problem. **Earth Sciences tutors** are also available to help you study.

Course Credit and Grading

You will receive two units of credit for taking Earth 131. Grades are based on the following:

Field Trip notebook	1/3 of grade
5 quizzes @ approx.20 points each	1/3 of grade
Final exam	1/3 of grade

Quizzes are given each morning in camp. The Geologic Time Scale will be included on the first quiz. Completed field trip notebooks are turned in Sunday morning when you get on the bus prior to returning to Santa Barbara. They will be graded and returned approximately ten days after the end of the trip. You will take a final exam approximately a week later. Specific dates will be announced.

Work Crews

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.

Cost . . . \$150 (plus unit fees)

Includes: Transportation, meals, field guidebook, and entrance fees to a swimming facility.

Not included: Camping equipment and personal items and expenses, SBCC registration fees. No textbook is required for the field course.

Financial aid: There is a limited amount of scholarship money available to qualified students. Scholarships are based on need and merit. See your instructor if you wish to apply for aid. **All scholarship applications are due no later than Wednesday, October 2.**

Refunds. If you have to withdraw, you must notify your Earth Science instructor no later than 4 p.m., Thursday, October 10th. Students who have withdrawn may pick up his/her refund check from the SBCC Cashier. Your space on the trip is not transferable. If you miss the trip, we cannot give you a refund.

Mandatory Pre-field Trip Orientation Meetings

All students participating on the field trip **must attend** an orientation meeting on one of the following dates:

**Monday, October 7
11:15 am - 12:15 pm in EBS 123**

**Tuesday, October 8
2:30 - 3:30 pm in EBS 115**

**Tuesday, October 8
5:30 - 6:30 pm in EBS 115**

At these meetings we will go over trip logistics in detail. If you do not attend one of the meetings, you will be dropped from the course. See Bill Dinklage, Michael Robinson, or Jan Schultz prior to the meeting if you have an unalterable schedule conflict.

How to Sign Up

YOUR PLACE ON THE TRIP IS NOT SAVED UNTIL YOU HAVE COMPLETED STEPS 1 and 2.

1. Add the course on Pipeline (either CRN # 30390, 30392, or 30393) If the CRNS are full, you may get an authorization code from one of the instructors.
2. Pay the \$150 field course fee at the SBCC Cashier. Make sure that your name gets entered on their "paid list". **Bring proof of registration with you.** NOTE: If applying for a scholarship, do not pay until notified.
3. Attend a mandatory orientation meeting. The dates, times, and locations are listed under Pre-field Trip Orientation Meetings.
4. Be on campus **at 5:45 a.m.** on Wednesday, Oct. 16. We will return to campus between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20.

Last day to pay: Monday, Oct. 7
(Unless the trip is full before this date)

Information

Announcements. You will receive all announcements via Pipeline. Please check your Pipeline account and e-mail regularly.

Field Trip Information. For equipment list, scholarship forms, photos and more, visit:

www.fieldstudy.com/geo/ES

Please Note

Academic course. This geology field trip is an academic course, not a vacation or camp-out or party. You should be prepared to work and study during both the day and in the evening.

Weather. You will be outside at the mercy of extremes in weather. The temperature may be in the 80s or 90s during the day and may drop into the low 20s at night. The evenings in the Sierra Nevada are not like the mild, balmy evenings in Santa Barbara. During most of the trip, we will be at 3500+ feet elevation. You should be prepared for heat and cold, wet and dry.

Accommodations. We do not camp at established campgrounds with modern rest rooms and/or shower facilities. You should be prepared to adapt as needed.

No booze or drugs. No alcohol or drugs are allowed at any time from our departure to our arrival back on the SBCC campus.

Questions

Earth Sciences Instructors
(805) 965-0581

Jan Schultz
Office: EBS 117
schultz@sbcc.edu
Ext. 2313

Michael Robinson
Office: EBS 113
Marobinson3@sbcc.edu
Ext. 3741

Bill Dinklage
Office: EBS 111
wsdinklage@sbcc.edu
Ext. 4114

**For more information and pictures
of previous trips, visit
www.fieldstudy.com/geo**