Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth C. Koeman-Shields
Email: ekoemanshields@angelo.edu
Office Phone: 325-486-6767
Cell Phone: 616-446-6145
Office: Vincent 124

Virtual Office Hours (in Collaborate): Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 am-11:00 am, Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 am-12:00pm, and by appointment
Outside (in between Vincent and Nursing Building) or Hallway Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:00 pm-3:00 pm, and by appointment.

Course Information

Student Learning Objectives
This is a senior level course that will cover various subjects related to the geology of planets and other bodies in our solar system. You will learn how to carefully defend your thinking when answering questions, participating in discussions and debates, and completing assignments. Learning outcomes will be evaluated by in class activities, discussions, homework, research projects, and papers. At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe the formation and evolution of solar system (including Earth and other planets, moons, meteorites, comets, asteroids).
2. Apply remote sensing data to interpret geology of other planets and bodies in our solar system.
3. Examine geologic processes on Earth and hypothesize what geological processes occur on other planets based on data (geophysical data, remote sensing, topographic profiles).
4. Identify outstanding research questions in the field.

Required Texts and Materials
Textbook: There are no required textbooks for this course. All reading material will be posted on Blackboard and you are expected to read the assigned material before coming to class.

Communication
Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails, include the course name and section number in your subject line. I will respond to email
and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Technology**
You will be required to have a laptop with internet access for this course. Please bring your laptop to class on days noted in the course schedule. If you do not have a laptop due to hardship, please let me know. You may also be required to turn in assignments on Blackboard and/or Gradescope using a scanner or camera.

**Grading**

**Evaluation and Grades**
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackboard Assignments (quizzes &amp; journals)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debates</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Presentation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading System**
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. The following grading scale is in use for this course:
- A = 90.00-100%
- B = 80.00-89.99%
- C = 70.00-79.99%
- D = 60.00-69.99%
- F = 0-59.99%

**Attendance and Assignment Policy**
In-class attendance is not required. However, you are expected to read and complete each assignment posted in Blackboard (if you come to class or not). Missed assignments, quizzes, projects, and other assignments cannot be made up. Drop date for the Fall 2020 semester is November 10. NOTE: You are NOT automatically dropped if you stop completing assignments or stop coming to class.

**Topic Folders**
Within topic folder, there will be reading material posted that is to be read before the class meets. There will also be quizzes, journals, or different types of assignments that will check your
understanding on certain topics. These are not listed in the syllabus schedule, but all are posted within the topic folders that are posted each week. The due dates will be listed on Blackboard.

**Midterm and Final Exam**

There will be one (1) midterm exam and one (1) final exam will be given during the semester. We will NOT be covering every bit of material from each reading assignment in class, however it MAY show up on exams. This means you are responsible for reading all materials and studying. More details about each exam will be provided before they occur. Exam dates are posted in the course schedule.

**Research Paper and Presentation**

You will have an 8-10 page research paper due at the end of the semester. You MUST have your topic approved by me before you may get started. The schedule at the end of the syllabus contains a list of tasks and due dates. Any tasks that are late or not completed will result in a 5% deduction off your final grade. Paper topics must be on a planet or other solar system body of your choosing (other than Earth). You must be careful to choose a topic that has enough research done on it so that you can discuss it in 8-10 pages. In the last week of the semester, you will present a 10 minute presentation on our research paper topic. This presentation can be either in person or a pre-recorded video you show in class. Be creative if you wish! Just make sure you are conveying the important points of your paper in the presentation. See me if you have questions.

**General Policies Related to This Course**

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

**Food and Drink Policy**

No food or drinks (other than water or close-lid drinks) are allowed in the classroom.

**Required Use of Masks/Face Coverings**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.
Academic Integrity
Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.  

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the
reference list. I encourage you to work together on homework assignments and to study together for exams. However, anything you turn in must be in your own words. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.  

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Modifications to the Syllabus**

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.
# Course Schedule (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Research Project Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1: 8/17 – 8/21</td>
<td>Syllabus Review of Basic Geology Principles</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2: 8/24 – 8/28</td>
<td>Solar System Formation Formation of Earth and Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3: 8/31 – 9/4</td>
<td>Space Junk: Meteorites, Asteroids, and Comets Debate #1: NEO’s: Real threat or not worth the expense?</td>
<td>Research Topic Approved by 9/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4: 9/7 – 9/11</td>
<td>JMARS Introduction (laptop needed) Impact Craters: Geologic Processes and Markers of Time</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5: 9/14 – 9/18</td>
<td>Project #1: JMARS Impact Cratering (laptop needed) Remote Sensing Basics</td>
<td>Annotated Bibliography Due 9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7: 9/28 – 10/2</td>
<td>Project 2: Remote Sensing (laptop needed)</td>
<td>Outline Due 10/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8: 10/5 – 10/9</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: Dr. Myriam Lemelin Midterm 10/8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#9: 10/12 – 10/16</td>
<td>Mercury and Venus Mars</td>
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<tr>
<td>#10: 10/19 – 10/23</td>
<td>Debate #2: Send humans to Mars or the Moon? Project 3: Mars Image Analysis (laptop needed)</td>
<td>Rough Draft Due 10/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11: 10/26 – 10/30</td>
<td>Jupiter and Saturn Moons of Jupiter and Saturn</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#12: 11/2 – 11/6</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: TBD Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, and Dwarfs</td>
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<tr>
<td>#14: 11/16 – 11/20</td>
<td>Research Presentations Review</td>
<td>Presentations and Final Draft due 11/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#15: 11/21</td>
<td>Final Exam (Cumulative)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
6. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
8. [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
9. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)