

Environmental Science 7
Introduction to Environmental Geology
Section Number: 3384 (T 6:45 – 9:55p) AHS / 152

Course Description: An examination of human-environment interaction focusing on natural hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, volcanoes and pollution.

Prerequisites: None **Transfer credit:** CSU; UC **(3 Units)**

Instructor: Meredith Leonard

Office: AHS / 304

Phone: (818) 778 – 5595

Student Drop-in Hours*: M 12:30-4:00p

Email: leonarm1@lavc.edu

Instructor web resource: <http://leonardlavc.weebly.com>

**Consult my schedule for additional times.*

Tentative Schedule (subject to change—it is **your** responsibility to keep current on dates)

Week:	Dates:	Topic / Assignment / Readings:
01	Feb 05	Course Introduction
02	Feb 12	Introduction to Natural Hazards
03	Feb 19	Internal Structure of Earth & Plate Tectonics
04	Feb 26	Rocks, Maps, Images, & GIS
05	Mar 05	Test #1
06	Mar 12	Earthquakes*
07	Mar 19	Tsunamis*
08	Mar 26	Volcanoes*
09	Apr 02	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
10	Apr 09	Flooding*
11	Apr 16	Mass Wasting*
12	Apr 23	Test #2
13	Apr 30	Atmosphere & Severe Weather*
14	May 07	Coastal Hazards*
15	May 14	Climate & Climate Change*
16	May 21	Wildfires* <i>*Relevant Student Presentations</i>

FINAL Test #3 (Chs 10-13) – **Tues. May 30th 7:00-9:00p** (no exceptions!)

Text: Keller, Edward A. & Duane E. DeVecchio (2012) *Natural Hazards: Earth's Processes as Hazards, Disasters, and Catastrophes, Custom Edition for Valley College (based on 3rd Ed.)* New Jersey: Pearson/Benjamin Cummings (ISBN: 1-269-06060-0). Packaged with Hazard City access card.

Publisher's web resources: www.hazcity.com and <http://esminfo.prenhall.com/science/geoanimations/> (geoscience animations).

Honors option: Information about the LAVC Transfer Alliance/Honors Program (TAP) is available on the campus website: <http://www.lavc.edu/StudentServWebsite/TAP/index.html>

Grading: Your grade for this course will be determined by the number of points earned this term.

Exams: 300 points (3 exams; 100 points each)

There will be **three exams** (equally weighted) for this class. The exams are not cumulative; each one will cover approximately one third of the class material (including material from lecture, videos, field trips and the text). The exams (100 points each) will consist of multiple choice, true-false, short answer, and fill-in. You will be required to bring a Scantron form (882 or 882-ES) for each of the exams.

Quizzes: 100 points

These quizzes will be similar in format to the exams. On these quizzes, you will be encouraged to work in groups. Think of these as study aides for the exams.

Participation, Discussions, In-class & Take-home Assignments: 100 points

Including: Hazard City CD exercises & Presentations (otherwise varied, therefore, it is extremely important that you attend class!)

Presentations: Group presentations by topic and event. Details provided in class.

Letter Grades will be determined based on the number of points you earn as a percentage of the total points possible for the course (500):

A 90 – 100% (450 points or above)	D 60 – 69% (300-349 points)
B 80 – 89% (400-449 points)	F < 60% (≤ 300 points)
C 70 – 79% (350-399 points)	

Extra Credit/ "Enrichment Activities": max 45 points

Ask me about the "Service Learning" Program at LAVC (<http://www.lavc.edu/servicelearning/>) or the "research option" (with a limit of **five** per student; one per month). Details will be discussed in class.

Class Policies: I expect students to come to class prepared, and to treat me and fellow students with courtesy and respect. **Academic dishonesty (including, but not limited to, cheating / plagiarism) will not be tolerated!** Anyone found to be plagiarizing or cheating on an assignment will receive a zero (fail) on that assignment or exam, and be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action (per "Standards of Student Conduct", schedule of classes). All assignments must be type-written, no exceptions.

Regular **attendance** is encouraged. If you stop attending class (or wish to drop) on or before **May 05, 2013** for Spring Semester 2013, you must drop the class yourself – officially – by telephone, internet or Office of Admissions and Records. Failure to do so may result in a grade of 'F' in this class.

Make sure to exchange **contact information** (phone & email) with *several* of your classmates. Just in case circumstances force you to miss a class, you will need to contact one of your classmates to find out what you missed. *Without prior approval / a doctor's note*, **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** will be given; **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS** will be accepted. Communication is key!

If you are a student with a disability & require classroom accommodations, please let me know & be sure to contact **Services for Students with Disabilities** (Student Svcs Annex, 1st Floor: 818-947-2681 or TTD 818-947-2680 or email: ssd@lavc.edu).

Do you qualify for **Financial Aid**? Call 818-947-2412 or consult their website:

www.lavc.edu/studentserve/site/financial/index.html

What you should expect to get out of this course:

Course Objectives: Describe the earth processes that contribute to natural hazards. Evaluate how human actions contribute to natural hazards and predict how these actions will interact with earth processes. Examine government policies and responses mitigating the effects of natural hazards. Analyze existing or proposed policy decisions regarding environmental planning.

Student Learning Outcome: Upon completion of this course, the student will have demonstrated the ability to gather and analyze real data, evaluate risk, and make assessments and recommendations with respect to natural hazards.