

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

OCN 110 INTRODUCTION TO OCEANOGRAPHY

Credit Hours: 4    Lec 3    Lab 1    Rec 1

General Education Course: G (global awareness)

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the geological and physical aspects of the oceans. Involves a survey of beaches and other coastal features, the origin and history of the ocean basins, waves, currents, tides, and the physical and chemical properties of seawater.

1. COURSE GOAL

Understand the physical, chemical, geological, and biological relationships that exist in the oceans.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 Understand principles of continental drift and seafloor spreading (plate tectonics) and how our earth is affected by these processes ,including topography and ocean basin features.
- 2.2 Become informed of the physical and chemical factors affecting marine life and of the basic oceanic food webs.
- 2.3 Identify and explain how the basic chemical and physical characteristics of water affect the oceans.
- 2.4 Describe how earth's atmosphere and ocean interrelate to affect the climate and ocean circulation.
- 2.5 Be prepared with a basis knowledge of oceanography so that they can, if they choose, enroll in more advanced courses in oceanography or related courses.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES

3.1 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Select known models or develop appropriate models that organize the data into: tables or spreadsheets (with or without technology); graphical representations (with or without technology); symbolic/equation format
- Obtain correct mathematical results and state those results with appropriate qualifiers and use the results to: determine whether they are realistic in terms of original data/problem; determine whether the mathematical model/representation of data is appropriate; describe trends in a table, graph, or formula and make predications based on these trends; draw qualitative conclusions in written form; apply them to real world problems

3.2 SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

- Describe the scientific method as a process
- Utilize data to communicate and apply an understanding of scientific logic and/or quantitative reasoning
- Analyze an article in popular literature that pertains to science and interpret the findings in terms of public policy, personal experience, or daily life

3.3 CIVIC DISCOURSE

- Study of a scientific discipline that includes ecological and environmental interrelationships.

4. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 4.1 Lecture and demonstration
- 4.2 Field trips
- 4.3 Audio-visual and multi-media aids
- 4.4 Laboratory exercises

5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Laboratory exercises
- 5.2 Field trip reports
- 5.3 Mineral rock identification
- 5.4 Writing assignments

6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Quizzes
- 6.2 Exams

7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 7.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 7.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 7.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 7.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 7.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.  
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.  
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
  - Submitting an academic assignment
  - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
  - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
  - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
  - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course