

**GEOL 1015**  
**Sedimentology and Stratigraphy Lab**

*Tuesdays 3:00-4:50 Room: Thaw 203*

Emily Constantine Mercurio

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**Office Hours:** Wednesday noon to 2 p.m. *and by appointment*. Please feel free to make an appointment to address specific concerns or drop by the office at any time for quick questions. Also, please do not wait until Tuesday to ask questions about the previous week's lab. I will need that time to prepare lectures and samples before class and will not be available before class.

**Lab Information:** This lab is meant to be a supplement to the class lectures and to advance your knowledge and field identification of sedimentary process and structures. It will count for 30% of your grade for the class. This is an upper level geology course and therefore it is essential that every student has had a previous exposure to basic and intermediate geologic concepts. You will need to have a thorough understanding of how rocks form and be able to identify basic rock forming minerals in hand samples. I recommended that you review the chapters on all rock types (i.e., Igneous, Metamorphic, Sedimentary), Weathering, and Geologic Time in your Physical Geology text.

**Expectations:**

- Lab assignments are due at the **beginning** of the following lab period. Late assignments are an automatic zero. If you foresee having any problems with turning an assignment in on time, please let me know **before** the due date. Exceptions will be made at my discretion.
- Working in groups is encouraged. However, each student is responsible for handing in his or her own representation of the lab assignment. There is a very clear line between working together as a group (each member contributing to the work) and cheating (copying another persons work) and it becomes very apparent. Copied assignments will simply receive no credit.
- Lab sessions are only 2 hours long and we have a lot of material to cover. Please arrive to lab on time. New material is covered at the beginning of the lab period, so late arrivals means you miss the lecture.
- There will be a field trip to Seneca Rocks. Please look at the dates of these commitments and let Prof Abbott or I know right away if there are any conflicts. They are fun and are critical to furthering your understanding of sedimentary geology and geologic processes. The trip is not optional.
- You may need more time with the rocks and samples after the official class time is over. I will find a way for students to do this, depending on need and group consensus.

**Materials:**

- Materials *necessary* for this class: hand lens\*, ruler, calculator, pencils, erasers

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- Other materials that *will be necessary* for the field trip (we will discuss ordering some of this as a group): waterproof paper/notebook, grain size charts
- Materials *very useful* for this class that can be shared: rock hammer (for field trip), colored pencils, eraser guard, your Physical Geology Lab book by Dr. Charlie Jones (not kidding, very useful, use it all the time myself)

*\* Just buy it. It's useful for all sorts of outdoor activities, other classes, and eventually you will need one for Field Camp.*

### **Assignments and Grading:**

Grades for all assignments will be based on accuracy, completeness, and neatness.

Lab assignments:	<b>60%</b>
Laboratory exam:	<b>20%</b>
Final Project:	<b>20%.</b>

**Disability Resources:** If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union 412-624-7890 as early as possible in the term.

**Academic Integrity:** All students are expected to adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the University pertaining to cheating and plagiarism. Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, noted below, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed.

*The integrity of the academic process requires fair and impartial evaluation on the part of faculty and honest academic conduct on the part of students. To this end, students are expected to conduct themselves at a high level of responsibility in the fulfillment of the course of their study. It is the corresponding responsibility of faculty to make clear to students those standards by which students will be evaluated, and the resources permissible for use by students during the course of their study and evaluation. The educational process is perceived as a joint faculty-student enterprise, which will perforce involve professional judgment by faculty and may involve – without penalty- reasoned exception by students to the data or views offered by faculty.*

-Senate Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom (February 1974)

**Sed/Strat Lab: Tentative Schedule\***

Lab	Date	Topic
Lab 1	09/08/09	Introduction/Review Sediments: Minerals, Composition, Distribution, and Grainsize
Lab 2	09/15/09	Siliciclastic Rock Classification and Topographic Maps
Lab 3	09/22/09	Sedimentary Structures
Lab 4	09/29/09	Frick Park Stratigraphy Project
Lab 5	10/06/09	Carbonates Part 1
	10/13/09	No class- Monday classes only on this day!
	10/20/09	<i>Lab Exam</i>
Lab 6	10/27/09	Carbonates Part II
Lab 7	11/03/09	Lithostratigraphy and Correlation I
Lab 8	11/10/09	Lithostratigraphy and Correlation II
Lab 9	11/17/09	Fossils
	11/24/09	Student Presentations
	12/01/09	Student Presentations
	12/08/09	Student Presentations and Final Projects Due

*\* Subject to change! Changes will be announced in lab or via email.*