A course syllabus is not the same as a course outline. A course syllabus outlines the general requirements for a course. A course outline is the specific document created by the individual faculty member to distribute to a specific course section. This is an “abbreviated” course syllabus because it is only collecting information on the course number, title, description, and learning outcomes. Please submit this completed form electronically to Dean Britton.

PLEASE NOTE: Any changes made to the Course Number, Title, or Catalog Description must go through the regular faculty governance process. This Expedited Process of Approval, which expires in March 2012, only pertains to approval of the Learning Outcomes. Therefore, this is NOT the form to be used to change course numbers, titles, or descriptions. This is NOT the form to use for proposing a new course. (See the Governance website for those types of proposals.)

I. Course Number and Title:
ESC 101 – Introduction to Physical Geology

II. Catalog Description:
Study of the planet Earth, its origin, structure, composition and the forces which shape its surface. Plate tectonics provides the framework for understanding the processes of volcanism, mountain building and earthquakes. External forces such as glaciers, streams and ocean waves are examined in order to interpret the landscape. Laboratories include studies of minerals, rocks, maps, photographs and other materials used by geologists to study the earth. Some field work required. (3 hrs. lecture, 2 hrs. laboratory.) Offered on: A-E-G / 4 cr. hrs.
4.000 Credit Hours
3.000 Lecture hours
2.000 Lab hours

III. *Learning Outcomes: (Main concepts, principles, and skills you want students to learn from this course) The Learning Outcomes listed here should be considered the minimum core outcomes for the course. Many other learning outcomes may also be a part of the learning experience within the course.

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

- Understand the origin and composition of the earth
- Identify common minerals and rocks
- Distinguish between igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks
- Interpret the rock cycle
- Interpret geologic maps and cross-sections, and identify geologic structures
- Understand volcanism, mountain building, earthquakes and glaciology
- Understand plate tectonics and its relationship to earth features
- Understand basic hydrogeologic principles and the importance of groundwater

*These statements must appear verbatim in course outlines. However, additional outcomes may be added to individual course outlines at the instructor’s discretion.

Revised 1/10
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Name of Discipline Lead:__________________________________________

Discipline Vote:

For__________    Against__________    Abstention__________

Date of Vote:__________

_(Initial and Date)_________  Certification of Vote by AVP of Academic Affairs

_(Initial and Date)_________  Certification of Vote by College Curriculum Chair

*These statements must appear verbatim in course outlines. However, additional outcomes may be added to individual course outlines at the instructor’s discretion.

Revised 1/10