CoSM Class Syllabus / Policy

2016 / Spring
GOL 449.001 & GOL 449.011
Ground Water & Ground Water Lab

Name: Dr. Kevin W. Stafford
Department: Geology
Email: staffordk@sfasu.edu
Phone: 936-468-2429
Office: E.L. Miller Science 309
Office Hours: MWF 11:00 – 12:00 ; TW 14:00 – 17:00 (or by appointment)

Class meeting time and place: MW 13:00 – 13:50 : TBA
Lab meeting time and place: M 14:30 - 17:00 : E.L. TBA

Text and Materials:
  •  *Groundwater Science*, Charles Fitts (2012)

Course Description:
Ground Water (GOL 449) – Three semester hours, two hours lecture, three hours laboratory per week. Principles of occurrence and movement of water beneath the earth's surface and the influence of various geologic situations upon its behavior, depletion, recharge and contamination of ground water supplies.

Program Learning Outcomes:
There are no specific program learning outcomes for this major addressed in this course. It is a general education core curriculum course and / or a service course.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:
The objective of Groundwater is to gain an understanding of the physical mechanisms that transport fluids below the surface and the contaminants that influence the integrity of groundwater resources.

Student Learning Outcomes:
The student is expected to understand and apply the following concepts of groundwater:

1. Review the basic principles of the hydrologic cycle and ground and surface water flow.
2. Understand ground water quality, basic water chemistry, solute transport and attenuation.
3. Define and characterize saturated and vadose zone flow systems.
4. Discuss the hydraulic properties of fluids and earth materials.
5. Understand groundwater contaminant transport and geochemistry.

Course Requirements:
Ground Water (GOL 449) is designed to provide an overview of the principles of occurrence and movement of water beneath the earth's surface and the influence of various geologic situations upon its behavior, depletion, recharge and contamination of ground water supplies. The course is divided into a lecture section and a lab section. See section on Grading Policy below.

Student learning in the lecture section will be evaluated through three examinations, laboratory exercises and student projects (Aquifer Project):
  •  **Midterm** (Wednesday, 09 Mar 16) – Exam focuses on general characteristics and quantification of groundwater, including all lecture material covered in class since beginning of semester.
• **Final (TBA)** – Exam focuses on aqueous geochemistry and geologic occurrences of groundwater, including all lecture material covered throughout the semester.

• **Laboratory Exercises (Weekly)** – Students will complete a weekly lab assignment related to the laboratory exercise conducted that week. Assignments may vary from mathematical calculations to figure construction to complete lab reports. Each weekly lab assignment will count 5% of the total semester grade. Some labs will be multi-week and grade for lab assignment will correlate with the number of weeks for those specific labs (e.g. a two week long lab will count 10%). Lab portion of grade totals 45% of semester grade.

• **Aquifer Project (Monday, 02 May 16)** – Each individual student will prepare and deliver a 15 minute presentation that provides an overview of one of the major aquifer systems in Texas. Individual aquifers will be assigned to students early in the semester. Grades will be calculated on detail of subject and presentation style.

**Lecture Course Calendar:**

Tentative schedule of topics to be covered in GOL 449 lecture include:

*Note: associated reading for each lecture is in parentheses*

- 18 Jan 16 – MLK Holiday – No Class
- 20 Jan 16 – Fieldwork – Class Cancelled
- 25 Jan 16 – Introduction and overview of course (n/a)
- 27 Jan 16 – Hydrologic cycle and water resources (Ch. 1)
- 01 Feb 16 – Physical properties and phases transitions of water (Ch. 2)
- 03 Feb 16 – Porous media (Ch. 3)
- 08 Feb 16 – Darcy’s Law (Ch. 3)
- 10 Feb 16 – NAPE Conference – Class Cancelled
- 15 Feb 16 – Hydraulic Conductivity of natural media (Ch. 3)
- 17 Feb 16 – GeoDays – Class Cancelled
- 22 Feb 16 – Overview of aqueous geochemistry (Ch. 10)
- 24 Feb 16 – Phase reactions in aqueous solutions (Ch. 10)
- 29 Feb 16 – Interaction of surface and subsurface waters (Ch. 5)
- 02 Mar 16 – Overview and measurement of fluvial waters (Ch. 5)
- 07 Mar 16 – Geologic occurrences of groundwater (Ch. 5)
- 09 Mar 16 – **Midterm Exam**
- 14 Mar 16 – Spring Break
- 16 Mar 16 – Spring Break
- 21 Mar 16 – SCGSA Conference – Class Cancelled
- 23 Mar 16 – SCGSA Conference – Class Cancelled
- 28 Mar 16 – Easter Holiday – No Class
- 30 Mar 16 – Karst aquifers and associated speleogenesis (Ch. n/a)
- 04 Apr 16 – Well Construction (Ch. 4)
- 06 Apr 16 – Aquifer Deformation & Storage (Ch. 6)
- 11 Apr 16 – Deep Karst Conference – Class Cancelled
- 13 Apr 16 – Deep Karst Conference – Class Cancelled
- 18 Apr 16 – Development of the general flow equation (Ch. 6)
- 20 Apr 16 – Steady state flow in groundwater systems (Ch. 7)
- 25 Apr 16 – Fluid hydraulics of groundwater wells (Ch. 8)
- 27 Apr 16 – Anthropogenic and natural groundwater contamination (Ch. 11)
- 02 Apr 16 – Student Presentations
- 04 May 16 – Solute transport in groundwater systems (Ch. 11)
- TBA – **Final Exam**
Lab Course Calendar:
Tentative schedule of topics to be covered in GOL 449 lab include:

Note: No specific reading assignments for lab

- 18 Jan 16 – Fieldwork – Lab Cancelled
- 25 Jan 16 – Review of mathematics concepts used in hydrogeology (Calculations lab)
- 01 Feb 16 – Quantification of porosity and permeability (Indoor Wet lab)
- 08 Feb 16 – Quantification of permeability with Darcy Tubes (Indoor Wet lab)
- 15 Feb 16 – Solution kinetics and karst development (Indoor Wet lab)
- 22 Feb 16 – Geochemical Data Analyses (Computer-based lab)
- 29 Feb 16 – GIS-based analyses of fluvial systems (Computer-based lab)
- 07 Mar 16 – Field collection of fluvial data (Outdoor Field lab – in LaNana Creek)
- 14 Mar 16 – Spring Break – No Lab
- 21 Mar 16 – SCGSA Conference – Lab Cancelled
- 28 Mar 16 – Easter – No Lab
- 04 Apr 16 – Field delineation of water tables (Outdoor Field lab – SRC)
- 11 Apr 16 – Deep Karst Conference – Lab Cancelled
- 18 Apr 16 – Slug testing and field collection of transmissivity data (Outdoor Field Lab – SRC)
- 25 Apr 16 – Computer-assisted well data analyses (Computer-based lab)
- 02 May 16 – Student presentations

Grading Policy:

- Lecture exams will count 40% (20% for each individual exam) of total semester grade.
- Lab Assignments will count 45% of total semester grade: five minor lab assignments at 5% each and two major lab assignments with full lab reports at 10% each.
- Aquifer project presentation will count 15%
- Total points: 40% (Lecture Exams) + 45% (Lab Assignments) + 15% (Aquifer Project) = 100%
- Grade Scale: >90% = A ; 80-89.9% = B ; 70-79.9% = C ; 60-69.9% = D ; <60% = F

Exams may include any of the following types of questions: 1) multiple choice questions; 2) true / false questions; 3) fill in the blank questions; 4) short answer questions; 5) figure illustration; 6) short essay questions; 7) mathematical calculations. All exams will take place in room 332 unless otherwise stated in class.

Cell phones, calculators, and other electronic devices are NOT permitted during exams. If you are using them in an exam, it will be assumed that you are cheating and you will receive a grade of “0” on that exam.

Exam scheduling conflicts for officially sanctioned university reason will be accommodated at a different time or date. In the event of such conflicts, you must inform me at least one week prior to the exam to reschedule your exam. Make-up exams are only given in documented cases of official university activities, illnesses or deaths in the family. If the final is missed for a legitimate excuse, an “Incomplete” will be given at the final and a make-up exam can be taken at the beginning of the next semester. Make-up exams will be different than the regular class exam and may be entirely essay format.

Attendance Policy:

- Daily attendance will be taken for university accounting purposes. Success in this course will reflect the level effort you put into the course.
- Be prepared for lectures by reading the material to be covered in lecture prior to attending class. Questions are encouraged and welcome – do not hesitate to ask questions in class.
- No electronic devices are needed during lectures for this class, including cell phones and calculators. Please turn them off and do not use them in class. Ringing phones and beeping
electronics disturb others in the class and interrupt lectures. If you interrupt class with your personal electronic devices, you will be asked to leave for the day.

- If you are late to class, please seat yourself quietly. Try not to be late because it interrupts others in the class. If you need to use the restroom or become ill, please excuse yourself from the lecture quietly.
- If you need to study for another class, do it elsewhere. The classroom is not the place to sleep either. Basically, refrain from activities in lectures that will distract or disturb the other students in the room, because you are all paying for the class and most people want to get what they are paying for.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).