

Matter and Minerals 2005-2006
Student-Faculty Covenant

Faculty:

Dharshi Bopegedera, Ph.D. (full time FWS) Faculty – Chemistry

Rachel Hastings, Ph.D. (full time FWS) Faculty – Mathematics and Linguistics

Jim Stroh, Ph.D. (full time FW) Faculty – Geology

This will be an intense learning experience involving, but not limited to chemistry, geology, mineralogy, calculus, problem solving, writing, and research.

Group work: To facilitate learning in lab and other parts of the program we expect you to work collectively on labs and specific project or projects. This activity will probably start in the fall quarter and become important in winter and spring quarters.

About group versus individual work: You can and will form working groups for class activities. These groups will:

- Develop working-group skills (if the group becomes seriously dysfunctional please see the faculty).
- Discuss all the class materials to achieve the maximum understanding possible per individual.
- Work on completing and correcting the weekly assignments.
- Correct exams if not done so in class.
- Work on projects and produce a presentation of accomplishment (probably as a poster session).
- Work on peer evaluations all quarter.

Although we expect you will work cooperatively to understand problem sets and other program assignments, **you, personally, are responsible to know the material.** For example, we strongly suggest you try to do all study questions on your own and then rely on your study group for help. The same goes for the computer exercises, try working on your own but feel free to ask a colleague for help. **All the exams we have planned require personal responses.**

About attendance and timely completion of assignments: Late work interferes with individual learning and disrupts the pace of the class. Class work is due on the day assigned unless you have a really good excuse (like serious illness, unsafe driving conditions, serious family problem). For some lab assignments, which often have unforeseen difficulties, watch for schedule changes. If you cannot attend class a phone call or e-mail message to the faculty will help us understand the problem. We do not expect you to always have sufficient time to finish in-class assignments. Expect to put in time evenings and weekends.

We expect high-quality work throughout this class. This means both conceptual-analytical quality and attention to presentation. For the latter read the “Operating Procedures” handout.

Many-many of the concepts and tasks in this class will be new to you. Some of the assignments have necessarily vague components. We expect you to use common sense, critical reasoning and

personal initiative to get through some of these hard spots. In the long run this will benefit you despite frustration now. If you require spoon-feeding better try a different class.

About credit: If you do all the work, on time, *and do it well* you will get full credit and a good evaluation. If you don't you won't. You can complete all the work and still lose credit for poor quality. Portfolios for the 3 subjects areas are a requirement for credit.

About partial and no-credit: You can lose credit for the entire program through cheating on exams, copying or using as your own ideas and materials generated by someone else (plagiarism) in one section of the program. You can avoid plagiarism by giving credit where credit is due, by citing your source, even an Internet source. You can also lose credit by not doing the class work, doing the work with low standards of quality, or by a violation of the Social Contract or Student Conduct Code (for example disrupting the class). Partial credit will *not* be awarded unless there are exceptional circumstances.

A self evaluation and faculty evaluations are required for credit at the end of each quarter. We expect you to complete formal evaluations at the end of the program (a faculty evaluation for Jim Stroh at the end of winter quarter).

Resources: The school has many resources to assist you in math and writing. Remember study groups as a source of support.

What to do about personal problems with the class: If you have personal problems we suggest you use the Counseling Center, Key Services (if eligible) and other resources for students. They can give you expert advice. If you have academic problems see the faculty you have an issue with first, then the faculty team. Last, follow the campus grievance procedure.

Faculty will retain this signed copy. A master copy for your review will be on file in the Computer Applications Lab in the program share.

I have read and understand the above.

Print Name:

Signed:

Date: