GEOL 100 - Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Natural Disasters  Units: 3
This course will emphasize the geology of earth’s natural hazards including earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, landslides, global warming and ozone depletion. Students will learn how geologic processes can directly affect people, property and human made structures. Procedures to mitigate such hazards will be explored. In addition to earth’s natural hazards, some other important concepts to be addressed include population growth pressures on natural resources, uniformitarianism and geology as a foundation to understanding our environment. Course entails three hours of lecture per week and four 3-5 hour mandatory laboratory exercises per semester.
Enrollment Requirements: Prerequisite: Completion of ENG 98 or higher and MATH 96 or higher, or qualifying ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores
Term Offered: Spring and Fall

GEOL 101 - Geology: Exploring Planet Earth  Units: 4
A lecture- and laboratory-based course covering fundamental geologic concepts of plate tectonics, formation of rocks and minerals, earth forces that cause earthquakes and volcanoes, and the significance of geologic time in effecting changes in the distribution of continents and oceans. The laboratory experience reinforces and applies concepts discussed during lecture, including effective use of topographic and geologic maps, identification of common rocks and minerals, and three-dimensional interpretation of rock structures, such as folds and faults. The course consists of three hours lecture, three hours lab per week, and one full-day mandatory field activity. Completion of course transfers for four credits to UNR/UNLV.
Enrollment Requirements: Prerequisite: Completion of ENG 98 or higher and MATH 96 or higher, or qualifying ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores.
Term Offered: Spring and Fall

GEOL 102 - Earth and Life Through Time  Units: 4
A lecture- and laboratory-based course examining the evolution of Earth through time including major events in the evolution of the crust, plate tectonics, and biosphere. Course is a continuation of an introductory sequence that begins with how physical processes shaped our planet in GEOL 101 and set the stage for how geological environments and life have changed through time as explored in this course. Course will emphasize how fossils are used to interpret ancient environments, the relationships between organisms, and to sequence the physical and paleobiological history of the Earth. The course consists of 3 hours of lecture and 3 hours of lab per week. A full-day field study is required. Course transfers four credits to UNR.
Enrollment Requirements: Prerequisite: GEOL 101 or consent of instructor.
Term Offered: Fall

GEOL 206 - Geology of Geothermal Energy Resources  Units: 3
This course surveys the characteristics, distribution and energy potential of geothermal resources, both world wide and here in Nevada. Course content includes (1) geologic controls on distribution and nature of geothermal systems, (2) the main types of geothermal systems and how energy is harnessed using current technology, and (3) potential geothermal resources that may provide useful energy with emerging technology. The course consists of three hours of lecture per week and one three-hour-long lab and one half-day and one full-day of field studies. The field studies include examining and garnering geologic data of a producing geothermal field and collecting water chemistry and geologic data of an undeveloped but potential geothermal resource. Transfers three credits to UNR and satisfies elective credit for baccalaureate degree in geology.
Enrollment Requirements: Prerequisite: ENG 98 and MATH 96; or qualifying Accuplacer, ACT, or SAT scores. Prior successful completion of one or more of the following is recommended: ENGR 110, GEOL 100, GEOL 101, GEOG 103, GEOG 104, or NRES 100.
Term Offered: Fall

GEOL 260 - Introduction to Field Methods  Units: 2
This course is a hands-on introduction to basic geologic map interpretation and field methods for geologic mapping. Students will learn how to interpret geologic features from aerial photos, measure strikes and dips of geologic structures and rock units, determine thickness of stratigraphic units, identify and map the distribution of different rock types and geologic structures, interpret geologic histories and potential hazards of different areas, and chronicle their findings in concise, well-written geologic reports.
Enrollment Requirements: Prerequisite: GEOL 101 or instructor approval.
Term Offered: Fall

GEOL 290 - Internship in Geology  Units: 1-3
A course designed wherein students will apply knowledge to real on-the-job situations in a program designed by a company official and a faculty advisor to maximize learning experiences. Available to students who have completed all core and major requirements and have a 2.5 GPA. Contact the appropriate chairperson for an application, screening and required skills evaluation. Up to eight semester hour credits may be earned on the basis of 75 hours of internship for one credit. May be repeated for up to eight credits.
Transferability: May not transfer towards an NSHE bachelor's degree
Term Offered: AS NEEDED