

## **Majoring in Geology – What you should take and when you best should do so.**

### **Getting an early Start:**

Fall I or II      **Geol 103 (The Dynamic Earth) or Geol 110 in the spring (Environmental Geology)**

Spring I or II    **Geol 104 (The Evolving Earth)**

Spring II or III **Geol 203 (Mineralogy)**

Note: This course could be taken concurrently with 103 if you have the appropriate prior course experience in the earth sciences (permission of instructor and the department is necessary).

### **Some additional comments:**

Three courses (**Geol 302, Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology; Geol 315, Sedimentary Petrology; and, Geol 401, Structural Geology**) have mineralogy as a prerequisite, but these are normally taken the junior and senior year.

The remainder of the nine required courses for the Geology major (see below and the University Catalog) can be taken at any time except that:

**Geol 216, Sedimentology**, should normally be taken before **Geol 315, Sedimentary Petrology**, and **Geol 408, Stratigraphy**, requires senior standing.

### **Strongly recommended support courses:**

Support courses in Chemistry and Math (and Biology of Physics depending on interest). Please seek advice on these from one of the geology faculty and take these as early as possible.

### **The nine required courses for a major in Geology:**

Geol 103 (The Dynamic Earth) or Geol 110 (Environmental Geology)

Geol 104 (The Evolving Earth)

Geol 203 (Mineralogy)

Geol 206 (Invertebrate Paleontology)

Geol 211 (Geomorphology)

Geol 216 (Sedimentology)

Geol 302 or Geol 315 (Igneous & Metamorphic Petrology or Sedimentary Petrology)

Geol 401 (Structural Geology)

Geol 408 (Stratigraphy)

### **Senior Year Experience:**

The Geology Faculty encourages majors to begin early to involve themselves in the investigative processes of the science by attending required Friday Seminars and by talking with upper-level students and with faculty who are involved together in the research process. There are many opportunities for majors to do Geology at St. Lawrence, but at present one is not required to do a senior project in the major. This may change. In any case, Geology 480 and 481, Independent Research, and Geology 489-490, Senior Thesis, are each appropriate SYEs for Geology majors. If one is to graduate with Honors in Geology, one **MUST** complete a senior thesis in addition to grade requirements. Please talk with the Chair or your adviser about Summer Fellowship proposals and related preparation for a research project and all it entails.

## **Minoring in Geology:**

Please see the University Catalog for a sample of possible course combinations – but note that all these tracks *require* Geol 103 and Geol 104.

## **General:**

Normally, 200-level courses are appropriate for sophomores, 300-level for juniors and 400-level for seniors.

An interdisciplinary major in Geology and Physics is offered for those considering graduate work and a career in Geophysics.

## **The combined major in Environmental Geology**

Geol 103 (The Dynamic Earth) *or* Geol 110 (Environmental Geology)

Geol 104 (The Evolving Earth)

Geol 211 (Geomorphology)

Geol 216 (Sedimentology)

Plus three geology electives – Mineralogy, Structural Geology and Stratigraphy are recommended – and the seven Environmental Studies combined major core courses (see the University Catalog).

Note: ENVS 101 is typically very popular and you may not gain a place at your first attempt (but if you take this course in your first or second year you should have no problems in completing the required number of courses).

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S:MajoringInGeology