

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ **COURSE GOALS** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 0050 – Mars, Moon, and the Earth

Semester 1 2009-2010, G Hour (MWF, 2:00-2:50 PM), MacMillan Hall 117

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Office hours: Mon 10-11 AM, Thur 1-2 PM, or by appointment

FIVE BASIC COURSE GOALS:

1. Understand approach to scientific study and analysis: Science “appreciation”:
 - How does science work?
 - Why is it important?
2. Understand how the Earth works:
 - Features.
 - Processes.
 - Interior.
 - History: past and future.
3. Where does Earth fit in the context of the Solar System?
 - We have a “terra-centric” view.
 - Data point of one: need perspective and context; other planetary bodies provide this.
4. What are the basic themes in the formation and evolution of the planets?
 - Birth, formative years, middle age, death.
 - What can we learn from other planets?
5. How does this perspective relate back to a better understanding of our own home planet, Earth?
 - Why is the Moon different than the Earth? Mars?
 - What about environmental change?
 - When did life originate? And where?