

**ESCI 5805
Spring 2018**

**Practical Skills for Professional Geoscientists
Syllabus**

Time: Mondays, Wednesdays 10:10 – 11:00 AM

Instructor: Josh Feinberg, feinberg@umn.edu, 651-500-5839

Office Hours: Thursdays, 10 AM to noon, Room 239 Tate Hall or by appointment

Prerequisites: Students should be in the last year of their major or recently graduated.

Credits: 3 cr.

Course Description:

This course is meant to provide training in practical skills regularly used by Geoscience professionals in industry and agency and is targeted for both upper level undergraduates and graduate students. Aspects of the course include:

- Preparation and guidance for the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) Fundamentals of Geology (FG) exam. This exam is a required step on the way to becoming a registered geologist. The exam is offered in mid-March, and the expectation is that students participating in the class will take it.
- Coordination and completion of the 40 hour HAZWOPER training through UMN.
- Detailed review of regional stratigraphy, bedrock and glacial geology and how they relate to various industrial applications and environmental issues.
- Review of state and federal environmental regulations, as well as the phases of environmental impact statements.
- Review of fundamental investigation techniques (GeoProbe drilling, hollow-stem auger drilling, well installation, analytical testing – soil, groundwater, air).
- Survey of environmental clean-up grants.
- Invited lectures from select representatives of various subfields and professional organizations (groundwater & contaminant hydrogeology, mining & geophysical exploration, environmental engineering, petroleum) to give students a jumpstart in their professional networking.

Attendance: This class meets twice a week for a total of 2 hours. If a class must be missed due to illness or other legitimate excuse, please let me know immediately and arrangements for making up the class will be made.

There is no final exam for this course as most students will be taking the ASBOG FG exam.

Course Requirements:

Individual Practice Test Reporting via email (five times)	50
Curriculum Vitae	20
Networking experience	10
Participation and discretionary points	20
Total	100

Students are welcome to inquire about their progress in the course and grade at any time.

Assignment submission and regrading: Individual assignments will be due on the day and time of your class meeting. Unless otherwise noted, assignments will be submitted via email. So, be sure to have your assignment submitted before you go to class. Assignments will be returned in class or via email or Moodle upload. Requests for regrading must be made within one week of the return of an assignment.

Assignment files: To me track your assignment, please use your first initial and last name in the file name for your CVs. For example, "JFeinberg_CV.pdf"

Use of Electronic Devices: Use of cell phones and computers in class is allowed only when they are required to complete an activity or assignment as indicated by the instructor.

Accommodations, Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, Equity and Diversity

This course adopts the university policies regarding disability accommodations, classroom conduct, academic integrity, use of personal electronic devices, absences, class notes, sexual harassment, equity and diversity, and mental health. Please refer to the University policy pages:

<https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/>

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Academic_Freedom.pdf

<http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu/>

<http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu/stressmgmt/index.html>

<http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/SexHarassment.pdf>