

Course Information -2023/2024
PHU5305 – Essentials of Geology – Level 05
Department of Physics
The Open University of Sri Lanka

Dear Student,

Please read this information carefully and plan your activities accordingly. If you need further assistance do not hesitate to contact your course coordinators.

Senior Coordinator: Prof. G.W.A.R. Fernando Tel: 0112 881 451/0773 265 138
E mail: gwfer@ou.ac.lk

Junior Coordinator : Ms. Hansani Upekshika Tel. 011 288 11 37
E mail: upekshika.hansi96@gmail.com

Contact Details of Regional Centers:

Colombo (CRC) -	Prof. G.W.A.R. Fernando	Tel: 0112 881 451
Matara (MRC) -	Dr. D.V.D. Hemalika	Tel: 0717 563 740
Kandy (KRC) -	Dr. Nayomi S. Yapa	Tel: 0719 156 724

COURSE CONTENTS

This is the 3 credits, Level 5 courses offered by the Department of Physics. You will learn the fundamental concepts of earth and space sciences and obtain more knowledge on basic concepts in geology and its applications. The course offered to you as 3 Units with 23 sessions.

Unit 1 – Earth Processes

Earth processes, explores the geologic processes of the Earth through the study of such topics as history of the Earth, structure and composition of the Earth, plate tectonics.

Unit 2 - Earth Materials

The study of Earth materials, such as minerals and rocks that allow geologists to understand the history of the Earth.

Unit 3 – Practical Work Book on Earth Material

Identification of Minerals and rocks

COURSE MATERIALS AND DAY SCHOOLS

You may collect all 3 Units upon registration to the PHU5305 from the Distribution Centres in Kandy, Matara or Colombo. You are required to be familiar with the Sessions before come to Day Schools and it is essential to bring the Practical Work Book (Unit 3) to the Practical Classes you have assigned. There will be 3-day schools. The first day-school is scheduled on **09th June 2023 from 8.00 am till 12.30 am through zoom and on-site at CRC**. All you are registered in KRC, MRC and CRC are requested to attend the first day school **COMPULSORILY** on that day either through zoom or onsite because it describes the overview of the course module and the practical classes with visual aids.

The following Units will be covered during the Day Schools, and Practical Classes.

Day Schools 1	Unit 1 Earth Processes
Day Schools 2	Unit 2 Earth Processes
Day Schools 3	Unit 3 Earth Materials
Practical Class	Practical Work Book on Earth Materials
RDSA	Revision, discussion of Past Papers etc.

You are request to attend all the days-schools because **practical classes are designed mainly based on the content of the day schools**. Students are requested to read the relevant documents before you come to the respective day school (activity Schedule is attached).

PRACTICAL CLASSES

Practical classes aims to provide an understanding of the variation in nature and composition of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, and how the character of each rock may be used as evidence of the location and geological environment of formation within the Earth. In completion of the unit, you will be able to classify igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rock types, and will have a significant understanding of the sedimentary, magmatic and metamorphic processes occurring within the Earth. Practical classes are design to learn the identification of the common rock-forming minerals, igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks in hand-specimen and under the microscope. Unit 3 is Practical Work Book on Earth materials which is provided in addition to two theory books.

We have decided to hold three (03) practical classes at CRC, one (01) practical class at MRC and one (01) practical class at KRC for your convenience. It is **ESSENTIAL** that you participate one of full 3-day practical session, which is an important part of your continuous assessment.

Practical Schedule – Participating in at least one of practical class is **COMPULSORY**.

Please see the activity schedule for dates of practical classes.

You can decide your convenient practical group at the CRC by signing your preference in the BOOK provided and indicate date(s)/date range of your preference for the practical/field classes. The changing the date of the practical classes is **NOT POSSIBLE**. Therefore, please make every effort to attend the allocated practical session. Students must contact Ms. Hansani Upekshika (**Junior Coordinator of Essentials of Geology - 011 288 11 37**) at the Physics Laboratory III (No 232) of the (Natural Science Section) in Block 10 of the Science and Technology Building or Prof. G.W.A.R. Fernando, Senior Coordinator, Room No 211 (Natural Science Section) in Block 10 of the Science and Technology Building or Deans Office for any of the inquiries.

E-LEARNING FACILITY

We offer you an e-learning facility through MYOUSL account. Past papers, supplementary documents, and many more information can be entertained for registered users. The details

and the method of access to the MYOUSL account will be informed you in the first day school.

Type of Activity	Date	Duration	Delivery Mode
DSM1	June 09 (Fri)	08.00 - 10.00	OL + OS
DSM2	June 09 (Fri)	10.30 - 12.30	OL + OS
Practical (1)	June 21-23	09.00 - 16.00	OS (CRC) Block 8
DSM1	June 22 (Thu)	08.00 - 10.00	OL
Practical (2)	June 28-30	09.00 - 16.00	OS (KRC)
Practical (3)	July 06-08	09.00 - 16.00	OS (MRC)
Practical (4)	July 13-15	09.00 - 16.00	OS (CRC) Block 8
DSM2	July 26 (Wed)	10.30 - 12.30	OL
CAT1	July 29 (Sat)	14.30 - 15.30	OS -All Regional Centres + Kegalle, Gampaha, Kalutara and Galle
DSN	August 16 (Wed)	18.00 - 20.00	OL
CAT2	August 26 (Sat)	10.30 - 11.30	OS -All Regional Centres + Kegalle, Gampaha, Kalutara and Galle
RDSM2	September 13 (Wed)	10.30 - 12.30	OS +OL
RDSA1	September 20 (Wed)	13.00 - 15.00	OS +OL

Release of OCAM: 09th September 2023

DSA – Day School Afternoon

NBT – No Book Test

RDSA – Revision Day School Afternoon

DSM1 – Day School Morning (8.00 am – 10.00 am)

DSM2 – Day School Morning (10.30 am - 12.30 pm)

DSA1 – Day School Afternoon (1.00 pm - 3.00 pm)

DSA2 – Day School Afternoon (3.30 pm - 5.30 pm)

DSN - Day School Night (6.00 pm - 8.00 pm)

CAT – Continuous Assessment Test

OS - On Site

OL - Online

RDSM – Revision Day School Morning

RDSA – Revision Day School Afternoon

Examination and Evaluation

Continuous Assessment (CA) - MCQs and short answers

Continuous assessment (CA) of this course is calculated according to the following criteria.

$$CA = 60\% [1B(NBT40\% + 2B(NBT 20\%))] + 40\% PA$$

NBT- No Book Test, **PA**- Practical Assessment

You will be **Eligible** to sit for the final examination only if your **CA** \geq 35.

Final Examination (FE) - 04 essay/ structure type questions to be answered out of 06.

The final Examination will be held at the semester end.

$$FE = 100\% \text{ Final Theory Paper}$$

Your final grade for the entire course will be calculated according to the following criteria

$$\text{Overall Mark} = 40\% \text{ OCAM} + 60\% \text{ FE}$$

We hope that you will enjoy the course module Essentials of Geology offered by the Department of Physics at the Open University of Sri Lanka. If there's *anything* that you don't fully understand then seek assistance, I'm happy to help during office hours or any other time you can find me to ask a question. E-mail me (gwfer@ou.ac.lk) your questions if you like.



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Senior Coordinator (PHU5305)

Prof. G.W.A. Rohan Fernando (0112-881451 or 0773-265138)

Senior Professor in Geology