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GEO 231.01: Geosciences Field Methods

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University of Montana
GEO 231 (GEOS 230): Geological Field Methods
Spring 2013
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This course introduces students to a variety of field methodologies routinely used in the collection, processing, and interpretation of geoscientific field data.

Each week we will conduct a field exercise involving standard geoscientific field techniques. You will need a good weather-proof field notebook and a hand lens.

Evaluation: All exercises, including field final, have equal weight.

Approximate schedule (depending on weather):

- 1-29: Introduction/ Geologic setting of western Montana
- 2-5: Topographic map reading, locating (Campus)
- 2-12: Geologic map reading (Campus)
- 2-19: Measuring structures (Kim Williams Trail)
- 2-26: Measuring and describing strata (Kim Williams Trail)
- 3-5: Making a geologic map (North Hills)
- 3-12: Making a geologic map (North Hills - continued)
- 3-19: Mapping fluvial terraces (Missoula)
- 3-26: Mapping glacial lake features (Missoula)
- 4-2: SPRING BREAK
- 4-9: Ground water (Campus)
- 4-16: Field trip to Bearmouth: Mapping igneous rocks
- 4-23: Field trip to Rattler Gulch: Stratigraphy, collecting fossils
- 4-30: Field trip to Rattler Gulch: Structural geology, cross-section
- 5-7: Field final