

Geology 200 Willamette Valley Field Trip



Instructor: John Bershaw
Office: Cramer Hall 17G
Email: bershaw@pdx.edu
Tel: 503-725-3378

Dates: Lecture: Friday, Feb 27th 2-3pm in BDWY 222
Field Trip: Saturday, Feb 28th 8am-6pm. Meet outside Cramer Hall at Broadway and Mill

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the geology of the Willamette Valley with an emphasis of how geology affects human use of the landscape.

On Friday, during the one hour class we briefly review the tectonic processes that formed the valley, how ancient and current water flow affected the valley and made it into the rich farm land today, and summarize how the soil distribution and landforms in the valley affects agricultural practices.

On Saturday, we travel the valley to view specific features that contribute to our geologic understanding of the valley and view the pattern of human development. At the time of this writing (Nov 2015) our route will enter the valley via Oregon City, drive a bit south of Salem, across the valley to Independence, north to Champoeg, and return to Portland. Of course, we'll have a number of stops along the way.

Grading:

The class is Pass/Fail. A pass requires, attendance at both the orientation class on Friday and field trip on Saturday, and completion of a worksheet, provided on Saturday to be turned in within a week of the field trip.

Prerequisites: None!