

# GEOS 606 Physical Volcanology

GEOS 606 CRN 77573 3 credits

September 6th – December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

MWF 11:40:12:45

Elvey 214 and Elvey 101

**Dr. Jonathan Dehn**

office: WRRB 108G, lab Elvey 101

phone: 474-6499 322-0676

email: [jdehnavo@gmail.com](mailto:jdehnavo@gmail.com)

Office hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday 3:00-5:00 pm

**Textbook:**

Fundamentals of Physical Volcanology, Parfitt & Wilson

**Class Homepage:**

<http://classes.images.alaska.edu/geos606>

## Course Description:

Volcanic Processes shall be discussed in depth, relating the physics behind the processes to the outcrops in the field. In addition to homework and examinations, the student will be required to solve a unique physical problem and present the results to the class during the “micro-meeting” at the end of the semester.

## Structure:

41 Class Periods total

39 Lectures total

1 Guest Lecture

1 Day of “micro-meeting”

3 lectures cancelled for AGU

Weekly Homework

10 separate assignments

each 2% total grade

3 Exams, take-home, open book, closed neighbor

2 mid-terms

15% total grade

1 final

20 % total grade

1 Project

30% total grade

## Grading:

Standard A-B-C, will not include +/- due to effect on graduate standing (i.e. B- = 2.7)

# Syllabus GEOS 606 Physical Volcanology FALL 2013

**September 06** Introduction, Important physical variables and constants  
the physical approach, boundary conditions

## *Part 1: "Introduction to physical processes"*

### Week 1

- 09** Statics  
stress and strain, properties of matter, stress distributions
- 11** Dynamics  
how stress effects strain, fracture, propagation of movement  
kinematics and kinetics, classic models, internal vs. external processes
- 11** Statics and Dynamics  
Stress and strain, how these interact -homework 1: statics

### Week 2

- 16** Thermodynamics  
the 3 laws, and 3 methods of heat transfer, the phase transition
- 18** Introduction to Rheology and Flow  
laminar vs. turbulent flows, thixotropic and power law fluids
- 20** Factor Dimensional Analysis  
how to brew your own models -homework 2: thermo

### Week 3

## *Part 2: "Intrusive Processes"*

- 23** Introduction  
physical and/vs. chemical processes, magma generation, viscosity
- 25** Stress in and Around Magma Chambers  
sampling a magma chamber, physical interactions
- 27** Magma Chambers  
size and shape, over turn -homework 3: FDA

### Week 4

- 30** Magma Chambers  
size and shape, over turn

## October

- 02** Fracture  
how does magma get out of a chamber?
- 04** Rate of Rise -homework 4: magma  
how fast can magma move
- Week 5
- 07** Pipe Flow  
Simple models, Hagen-Poiseuille, Reynolds, Rayleigh, and worse
- 09** Magmas & Dikes  
Phase differences in magma, fracturing, flow
- 11** Dikes, Lacoliths, and Conduits -EXAM 1: physical properties  
real cases, emplacement mechanisms
- Week 6
- 14** **Bubble Formation Growth & Coalescence**  
*Jessica Larsen tentative guest lecture*
- 16** Conduit mechanics  
flow-type transitions, bubbles and density
- 18** Eruption Mechanisms -homework 5: conduits  
mixing, the role of volatiles, pressure, temperature and cyclicity
- Part 3: "Extrusive Processes"*
- Week 7
- 21** Measuring Subsurface Movement  
intro to seismicity, long period tremor, displacement, inflation
- 23** Fissures, Flows and Fountaining  
changes during eruptions
- 25** Flow Structures  
channels, levies, textures, and vesiculation -homework 6: bubbles
- Week 8
- 28** Lava Flows  
pahoe hoe to a'a transition, growth of flow fields
- 30** Lava Domes  
endogenous and exogenous growth, brittle ductile transition

## November

- 01** Flow Monitoring and Measurement  
field methods, flux -homework 7: lavas  
-project proposals due-

### Week 9

- 04** Mafic Volcanoes  
examine the entire primitive volcanic system
- 06** The Role of Viscosity and Hazards  
flow dynamics of domes and Merapi-type pyroclastic flows
- 08** The Role of Temperature -EXAM 2: hawaiian-type  
higher silica contents, increase in explosivity

### Week 10

- 11** The Cooling of Lavas  
Stefan cooling problem, lakes, flows, domes
- 13** The Role of External Water  
rain, subaqueous to submarine flows
- 15** Measurement of Temperature -homework 8: cooling  
thermocouples, radiometers, FLIR, field methods

## Part 4: "Pyroclastic Processes"

### Week 11

- 18** Strombolian Eruptions  
ballistics, drag
- 20** Fragmentation Processes  
ash, lapilli, bombs, blocks, and "JCs"
- 22** Cooling and Energy Transfer in Eruptions -homework 9: fragmentation  
cold ash clouds, gas emissions

### Week 12

- 25** Vulcanian, Plinian, and Worse part 1  
eruption columns, pf, base surge, fallout
- 27** Vulcanian, Plinian, and Worse part 2 -homework 10: explosions  
calderas, secondary processes, rheomorphism

\*\*\*\* *Thanksgiving Weekend 28-30 November* \*\*\*\*

## December

Week 14

Week 15

## Student Presentations

**18 “Micro-Meeting” 12:00-14:00 (final exams due)**  
Student Talks/Poster Presentations

**Homework Format:** 3 Questions; 2 analytical (@25%), 1 qualitative (50%)

**Exam Format:** 10 Questions; 6 analytical (@5%), 3 qualitative (@10%), 1 fda (40%)

**Final:** 15 Questions; 9 analytical (@4%), 4 qualitative (@5%), 2 fda (@22%)

All assignments are take home, open book, closed neighbor.

**Project:**

The student will pick a physical problem relating to volcanology which has not been previously solved, and write a <3 page proposal (due October 28) for evaluation.

**Suggested Additional Reading:**

*Part 1:*

Clift, Bubbles Drops & Particles  
Johnson, Physical Processes in Geology  
Kreith and Brohn, Principles of Heat Transfer  
Turcotte and Schubert, Geodynamics

*Part 2:*

Schmincke, Volcanism  
Dobran, Volcanic Processes  
Bursik & Freundt, From Magma to Tephra

*Part 3:*

Kilburn & Guest, Active Lavas  
Fink, Lava Flows and Domes  
USGS Prof. Paper 1350  
USGS Prof. Paper 1250  
USGS Prof. Paper 1676

*Part 4:*

Fisher & Schmincke, Pyroclastic Rocks  
Sparks, Volcanic Plumes  
Calvari et al., Mt. Etna: Volcano Laboratory