

# Syllabus

ERTH 137 (4.5 units) & ERTH 138 (4.5 units)

Summer, 2026

Santa Barbara City College

**Instructors:** Bill Dinklage and Alex Wrobel

**Field logistics:** Kevin McNichol and the mini Woolly crew

**Dates:** see calendars, 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> pages

**Location:**

- ERTH 137: SBCC campus and White Mountains, eastern California
- ERTH 138: Peak-to-Peak Mt. Charter School for 2+ weeks; SBCC last few days

**Prerequisites:**

- ERTH 137: physical geology (with lab) or historical geology (with lab)
- ERTH 138: ERTH 137 or its equivalent

**Required text:** none

**Trip fees:**

- \$132 for ERTH 137 (slightly less for students already enrolled at SBCC)
- \$327 for ERTH 138 (slightly less for students already enrolled at SBCC)

## Course Descriptions

### ERTH 137

Emphasizes the scientific approach and interpretation of geologic data in the field. Provides a "hands-on" intensive approach to geologic field mapping. Although designed for Earth Science majors, the course is available to students interested in geologic field work experience. It provides intensive field experience in use and application of field geology equipment and methods, including use of Brunton compass and tape. Students work in pairs and three-person teams to learn to take professional style geologic field notes, write geologic reports, and create geologic maps, cross sections, and stratigraphic columns.

### ERTH 138

Provides for rigorous work experience in field geology for Earth Science majors. Includes field mapping of a "badlands" area, using aerial photographs, topographic maps, and geological surveying equipment. Includes team-based geological field mapping methods. Skills learned in ERTH 137 will be further developed with the addition of constructing a topographic map, geomorphic mapping of the San Andreas Fault zone, and outcrop mapping of highly deformed metamorphic rocks.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR  
SUMMER FIELD, MODULE I - INTRODUCTORY FIELD GEOLOGY (ERTH 137)  
JUNE 19 - JULY 11, 2023**

**WEEK ONE:**

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

- No class. Welcome orientation for off-campus students 4:30-5:30 pm

MONDAY JUNE 29 (8:30 - 12:15)

- Check out equipment (Brunton, hammers etc.)
- Course intro & overview
- Green forms for field work

- HW Rocks Review - ID hand specimens Due Wed. 7/1
- ❖ **Intro to Brunton** - Strike&Dips Due Wed. 7/1
  - ❖ **Leadbetter Point** - Strike&Dips, intro to note-taking Due end of lab

TUESDAY JUNE 30 (8:30 - 12:15)

- **Shoreline Park** - Mapping the sea cliffs, report Due Fri. 7/3
- Intro to scientific report writing (10 min)
- Formal note-taking lecture

- HW Tranquillon Volcanics notes-writing Exercise Due Wed. 7/1
- Introduction to stratigraphy and how to make a strat column

WEDNESDAY JULY 1 (8 AM - 5 PM)

- ❖ **Strat Column** Due Fri. 7/3  
Lithological descriptions, measured sections, strat. column, report

FRIDAY JULY 3 (8:30 - 12:15 expected lab attendance)

WORK ON MATERIAL DUE--ALL WORK DUE BY 5PM

## WEEK TWO:

### MONDAY JULY 6 (8:30 - 12:15)

- All coursework from the previous week will be graded and returned
- ❖ **Topo Wandering exercise** – Copopah Dr. Due end of lab
- HW Contouring Exercise Due Wed. 7/8

### TUESDAY JULY 7 (8:30 - 12:15)

- HW Compass Bearing Geology Exercise Due Fri. 7/10
- Intro to drafting cross sections – Painted Cave Syncline
- ❖ **Possible short field exercise TBD** Due Wed. 7/8

### WEDNESDAY JULY 8 (8 AM - 5 PM)

- ❖ **Painted Cave Syncline** - El Camino Cielo Due Fri. 7/10  
Geologic mapping, note-taking, bearings, report

### FRIDAY JULY 10 (8:30 - 12:15 expected lab attendance)

WORK ON MATERIAL DUE--ALL WORK DUE BY 5PM

- = Lecture or Classroom
- ❖ = Practical Lab/Field Exercise
- HW = Homework Assignments

**WEEK THREE:**

**LITTLE POLETA  
FIELD MAPPING  
JULY 11 - JULY 15, 2026**

FRIDAY JULY 10

- ALL LUGGAGE MUST BE AT EBS LOADING DOCK BY 9am  
(Then you can chill for the rest of the day and enjoy the July 4 holiday!)

SATURDAY JULY 11

- LEAVE FOR POLETA AT 8AM
- GET TO CAMP IN AFTERNOON, WHITE MOUNTAINS, INYO CO.
- OVERVIEW OF AREA & INTRO TO LITHOLOGICAL UNITS

SUNDAY JULY 12 - TUESDAY JULY 14

- LITTLE POLETA  
Geologic map, Notes, Strat column, Geologic report

WEDNESDAY JULY 15

- Return to SBCC - clean out vehicles

THURSDAY JULY 16 - FRIDAY JULY 17

EXPECTED WORK WITH PARTNER TO FINISH POLETA ASSIGNMENTS

FRIDAY JULY 17

ALL LITTLE POLETA WORK IS DUE 5 PM FRIDAY JULY 17

# July - Aug 2026

## ERTH 138 (Geology field camp)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	20	21 8:30 luggage 9:00 map prep (Los Alamos Cyn)	22 7 am depart Los Alamos Cyn	23 Los Alamos Cyn	24 Peace Valley strat	25 San Andreas Fault geomorph
26 Office day. Stuff due early afternoon. Intro to topo	27 Topo surveying, top of Mt. Abel	28 Mt. Abel metamorphi cs	29 Office day. Stuff due 5 pm	30 DAY OFF (laundry, relax)	31 Day 1 Dome Springs mapping	1 Day 2 Dome Springs mapping
2 Day 3 Dome Springs mapping	3 Day 4 Dome Springs mapping	4 Day 5 Dome Springs mapping	5 Office day	6 A couple hrs office work. Clean & pack up, drive home.	7 Office day at SBCC	8 Office day at SBCC
9 Office day All work due 5 pm	10	11	12			