

Spring 2024

Geology and Water Resources of the Southwest U.S.

SEMINAR & FIELD TRIP (1 credit)

ESCI 795-01 CRN 56664 (limit 12) & ESCI 895-01 56668 (limit 5)

Led by Professors Matt Davis and Sophie Coulson

Join us in an exploration of the geology and water resources of the Southwest US as we traverse the Colorado Plateau into the Rio Grande Rift. Potential stops include Hoover Dam and Lake Mead, Grand Canyon, Lake Powell, Shiprock, Valles Caldera, and more!



Spring Semester Seminar is focused on paper discussions & field trip guidebook prep.

Field Trip (May 20-26, 2024) is focused on examination of water resources, landscapes, geologic outcrops reflecting a range of processes, and the regional tectonic setting.

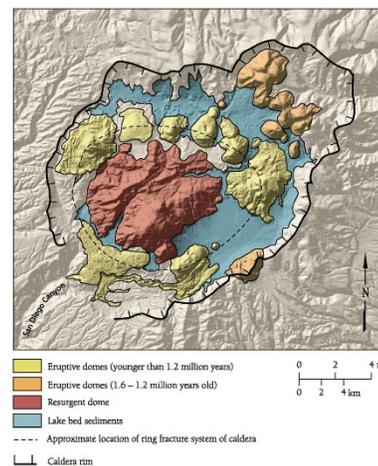
Participants are responsible for airfare to Las Vegas NV and from Albuquerque NM; all other field expenses covered by the Dept. of Earth Sciences and ESCI Gift Funds. Additional funds may be available to assist students with financial need.

Enrollment is limited to 17 students, preference will be given to juniors and seniors majoring the Department's Earth Sciences and Environmental Sciences programs.

Register today, see important additional information on the next page.



Contact us if you have questions:
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-- IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION --

PLEASE READ BEFORE REGISTERING

Field experiences for our undergraduate and graduate students are critical to the Department's mission and, with the generous support of alumni and friends of the Department, we are pleased to offer this opportunity for a week-long field trip to the Southwest US. The course has two components: the seminar and the field trip, both are required.

During the Spring 2024 semester, participants will meet weekly (time TBD) to plan the trip details and assign responsibilities. Each student will be required to lead the discussion on one stop on the trip and write up a summary that will be part of the Guidebook.

The second component, the field trip, will begin in Las Vegas Nevada at 9am on Monday May 20, 2024¹ and end in Albuquerque New Mexico on Sunday May 26, 2024². Students are responsible for travel expenses getting themselves to and from the start and end points, respectively³.

The Department will cover all transportation, lodging, and meal expenses during the trip. We expect that we will be camping most nights and staying in motels for the others. We expect to be able to secure sufficient camping equipment (through the department gear library and campus recreation rentals), but students are encouraged to use their own gear as appropriate. Due to the limited availability of camp sites (and cost of lodging), participants will be expected to double-up in tents and motel rooms.

In our planning process, we will be identifying options for day hikes and other activities with careful attention to accessibility and safety. Students will be expected to participate in planned group day hikes and field trip stops. Students will also be expected to help with camp setup, breakdown, cooking, and cleaning. Graduate students will be expected to take on a leadership role for both the seminar and field trip components.

Some of the topics that are being considered include:

- Sustainability of water resources in the desert Southwest
- Geology of the Grand Canyon
- Sedimentology of the Navajo Sandstone
- Geotectonics of the Rio Grande Rift
- Desert landscapes
- Geophysical monitoring of the Jemez volcano complex
- Geothermal resources in the Southwest
- and more :)

¹ Incidentally, there is a JetBlue nonstop flight that arrives at 9:01 am, so an airport pickup for arrivals is likely.

² We expect to have different groups dropped off at the Albuquerque airport to catch departing flights, starting with red-eye flights on Saturday evening through the day on Sunday. More details to follow.

³ Some additional funds may be available for students with financial need.