Geoscience Online Learning Initiative

The Geoscience Online Learning Initiative (GOLI) platform is a joint effort by the American Geosciences Institute, the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM), and the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) to provide a platform for asynchronous, life-long learning and continuing education opportunities in the geosciences. The long-term vision for GOLI is to provide a platform for geoscience societies to host asynchronous learning modules for use in both professional continuing education and to help students be better prepared for entering the geoscience workforce. AGI is interested in providing this platform with the hope that Member Societies will create a transparent marketplace for learning opportunities and CEUs/micro-credentials that are transferrable across the entire profession.

The GOLI platform offers the following types of courses:

**GOLI live webinar courses** provide up to date information on technical and applied geoscience topics and are taught by a range of experts from across the geosciences. Attendees earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) upon the completion of the webinar course.

**GOLI asynchronous online courses** provide learners with the flexibility to actively self-pace their progress, since asynchronous courses do not have a set schedule like traditional academic semester-based courses. Brought to you via the Open edX Learning Management System (LMS), learners are able to browse course descriptions, enroll in specific courses, access content, and complete any course completely free of charge. All learners who complete online courses offered through the GOLI platform with a passing grade of 70% or higher are eligible to purchase Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for a nominal charge.

**Have an idea for GOLI content?** We'd love to have you as a contributor! To submit your GOLI webinar or course idea, please fill out the GOLI Proposal Submission Form and a board of reviewers will evaluate your proposal. We look forward to hearing your ideas!

**Search for GOLI Courses**

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- **GOLI Course Type**
  - - Any -
  - Online Course
  - Webinar
Geologic Names and Usage: A Guide to Stratigraphic Nomenclature

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

Stratigraphic nomenclature is the system of proper names given to specific stratigraphic units, which provides a universal language essential for all scientific publications. Consistent and effective communication in the geosciences requires systematic use of stratigraphic nomenclature. The importance of consistent stratigraphic nomenclature as a means of effective geologic communication has been recognized since the USGS established the Geologic Names Committee (GNC) in 1899 to evaluate and address issues of nomenclature.

Mudrock Petrology and Pore-scale Imaging

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology)
CEUs: 0.50
View Course

This course designed to be an introduction to the compositional classification of fine-grained sediments and sedimentary rocks and provides a foundation for bulk rock property prediction. The course begins with an overview of the basic components of sedimentary rocks that covers the terminology and particulate characteristics to consider when classifying fine-grained sedimentary rocks. It then focuses on grain assemblages in mudrocks and possible ways to classify fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
Unconscious Bias: Perspectives from the Private Sector

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

As humans, we're all biased. The question is not 'are we biased', the question is 'what are our biases'. We unconsciously infer things about people all the time. We do it at work on a daily basis. The challenge is that our biases are rarely blatant. Our biases may surface as subtle micro-behaviors that we often don't notice. In this course, we'll learn more about bias and what we can do to control and counteract our biases.

Balancing Well Water Supplies to Mitigate Drought Impacts

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

Communities that rely on surface water resources via sand and gravel wells are vulnerable to the impacts of drought on water supplies. In 2020, much of New England experienced an extreme drought due to lack of sufficient precipitation from May through September, which resulted in water restrictions across Connecticut, Maine, and Rhode Island. Communities that have both bedrock wells and sand and gravel wells are more resilient during drought because they are able to switch between surface water and groundwater resources as needed in order to mitigate water resource limitations.
Introduction to Forensic Geology - Petrography

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

Forensic Geology/Petrography is not a new tool in the construction industry; however, it is generally not a well-known discipline. Observations detailed in this course are not typically covered during university geological studies. Most of these skills are learned on the job and do require a minimum of 5 years of experience directly under a Petrographer to earn a Petrographer title. This course will provide the standards followed, typical observations, and a few fun projects.

Well Re-Development in New England

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 0.50
View Course

This course is designed to provide water utility personnel, engineers, hydrogeologists, regulatory officials, and other interested persons an understanding about the sand and gravel and bedrock aquifers in New England, how and why well performance declines over time, and information about available options for rehabilitating these wells.

Well Logs and Log Analysis for New Hires

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 1.00
View Course

The two most basic tools used in petroleum exploration and production are well logs and seismic data. Their integration is essential to enhance the probability of success of exploratory and development ventures. In this module we concentrate on the subject of well logs. Although we always hope for success when we drill wells, we can learn valuable information from dry holes also. So, let's see what we can ascertain from well logs.
Water as One Resource

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.10

This course provides an overview of how groundwater and surface water interact, what the implications of these interactions on water resources are, and how water can be more effectively managed if an understanding of these interactions is incorporated. The course presenters are Ken Bradbury from the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, William A. Alley from the National Groundwater Association, and Thomas Harter from the University of California, Davis.

Understanding Professional Geologist License Requirements: California 2019

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.15

This course focuses on the qualification requirements to get a Professional Geologist (PG) license in California and upcoming changes that applicants should understand. It will also provide an overview of the California laws and regulations that govern the practice of geology. Knowledge of California’s Geologist and Geophysicist Act along with the accompanying regulations is one of the responsibilities that is part of being a licensed professional.

Tracking the Global Supply of Critical Materials
No country in the world produces all of the mineral resources necessary for modern society. International trade plays a critical role in providing these raw materials, forming a global network of production, export, import, and use. This network must continuously adapt to national and international developments in science, technology, politics, and economics. As a result, information on the global flow of raw materials plays a fundamental role in improving national and international resilience to potential supply disruptions and market changes.

The Lower Cretaceous of Texas

We will go on a tour of some selected outcrops of the Cretaceous System of central Texas. This general area constitutes one of the best exposures of Cretaceous strata anywhere around the globe. In the course, we will emphasize various aspects of the development, stratigraphy, sedimentology, structure, and paleontology of these Cretaceous units. It is also our aim to provide you with additional historical and geographical data that will make this virtual field tour interesting and informative.

The Development of Geoscience-related Ethics Codes

This course focuses on the adoption of and changes in geoscience-related ethics codes over the years. Many geological and related engineering professional associations were founded in the 19th and early 20th centuries but ethics codes were generally not adopted until after WWII. The AAPG Code of Ethics was the first code and was adopted in 1924. Codes have changed over the years for a variety of reasons as has their organization. There are common principles in the codes like honesty, integrity, transparency, etc.
Telling your Geoscience Story with Story Maps

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

Communicating results of geoscience investigations to a diverse set of audiences will grow in importance in our 21st century world. Story maps are web mapping applications that provide geoscientists with the ability to combine 2D and 3D maps, audio, video, photographs, and narrative that can be shared with research colleagues, or the general public, and embedded in web pages and online presentation tools. This course will quickly give you the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make your own maps for telling your own story.

Techniques for Developing High Resolution LNAPL Conceptual Site Models

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists
CEUs: 0.20
View Course

This course is intended for geologists involved in Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (LNAPL) assessment and remediation. This course provides information on the development of high resolution conceptual site models that can be used to guarantee the project goals are met. The class will cover advantages of a high resolution LNAPL Conceptual Site Model (LCSM); design and implementation of a high resolution investigation field program; case studies and end uses of a high resolution LCSM.

The course presenter is Roger Lamb.
State Responses to Induced Earthquakes

Course Type: GOLI Online Course  
Organization: American Geosciences Institute  
CEUs: 0.10  
View Course

The surge in recent years of earthquake activity associated with some oil and gas operations, most notably in Oklahoma, has spurred a range of actions and responses from state geoscientists and regulators. States have taken measures to monitor these earthquakes and moderate the activities that may be causing them, particularly the deep underground injection of large volumes of wastewater. Many states with extensive oil and gas operations but little or no increased earthquake activity have also adopted practices to prevent and prepare for potential induced earthquakes in their area.

Professionalism and Geoethics: Creating a Workplace Environment Where Everyone Can Succeed

Course Type: GOLI Online Course  
Organization: American Institute of Professional Geologists  
CEUs: 0.10  
View Course

This course introduces topics that contribute to workplace "climate" (e.g., microaggressions, implicit bias, empowering bystanders) and provides suggestions for personal and institutional actions that can be taken to ensure that everyone can succeed in the workplace environment. The course presenter is David W. Mogk, Professor of Geology at Montana State University.
Professional Geologist Licensure Requirements and the ASBOG National Geology License Examinations

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.15
View Course

The purpose of professional licensing is to ensure a minimum level of competency for practitioners in a given field in order to protect the public. Having a license to practice geology is a requirement in the majority of United States, Canada and several other countries. In contrast to other professions, a disconnect has developed between applied geologists and academia. Professional licensing requirements are a fact of life for applied geologists.

Preparing our Workforce: Hosting Career Discussions

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.25
View Course

This course is designed to help faculty and non-academic professionals host career discussions with students. The course provides learners with specific career-related content, materials, and well-tested tools that will help in facilitating geoscience career discussions and presentations. The course will cover three main sections:

Polishing Your Writing Skills for State Government Agency Careers

Course Type: GOLI Online Course
Organization: American Geosciences Institute
CEUs: 0.10
View Course

This course provides insight into the professional and technical writing skills that are needed by geoscience students pursuing careers in state government agencies. Speakers explore the skills that are developed during students’ undergraduate and graduate academic training, discuss the types of written products that are developed by geoscientists in state agencies, and provide tips for improving and expanding writing skills.
Coastal hazards are a widespread challenge that cost millions (and sometimes billions) of dollars in the U.S. every year due to property loss and spending on mitigation measures. Based on the most recent U.S. Census, over 39% of the U.S. population lives in areas that may undergo significant coastal flooding during a 100-year flood event. Additionally, six of the ten most expensive weather-related disasters in U.S. history have been caused by coastal storms.