TOBACCO ROOT MOUNTAINS
MONTANA
one of the best places in the
world to learn geology in the field

here's how to reach us

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dr. Erika Elswick | eelswick@indiana.edu

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION
iugfs@indiana.edu | 812-855-1475

JUDSON MEAD
GEOLOGIC FIELD STATION
2024 summer courses

iugfs.indiana.edu
More than 3.5 Ga of geologic history available for study

- Cambrian through Pleistocene sedimentary rock
- Mesozoic and Cenozoic igneous rocks
- Precambrian rock units
- Excellent examples of the three major structural styles found in the Northern Rocky Mountains

Gain experience with performing field investigations and developing professional skills:

- Time management in the field
- Problem-solving skills and lateral thinking
- Observation, data collection, analysis and interpretation
- Ability to recognize patterns and understand complex systems
- Collect, prepare, process and present data
- Experience with geologic report writing
- Problem-solving skills and lateral thinking
- Time management in the field
- Develop independence in field work planning
- Comfortable dorms
- Modern classrooms, computer lab and WiFi
- All meals in camp are provided
- Experience with geologic report writing
- Numerouse recreational opportunities for down time
- World-class curriculum and faculty, from diverse backgrounds

Successful alumni have found professional positions in geoscience education, state and federal agencies, and industry. We have scholarships available for 2024!

More flexible course options

All of these courses are open to upper division undergraduates and graduate students.

EAS X429 Field Geology in the Rocky Mountains
6 CREDIT, 6-WEEK CAPSTONE FIELD COURSE June 3 - July 24, 2024
This course is designed to prepare students to be successful in a geoscience job or graduate school. It focuses on integration of geology, geochemistry and geophysics to solve 4-dimensional geoscience problems and includes a deep-dive into a subdiscipline concentration of your choosing.

- 3 weeks of intensive outcrop scale field mapping with different objectives each week
- 1 week of regional mapping, incorporating your field work with other data
- 1 week concentration in a subdiscipline of your choice
- 1 week studying classic geology localities across Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota

EAS X498 Subdiscipline Concentration Courses
1 CREDIT, 1-WEEK June 29 - July 3, 2024
Each concentration is a 5-day deep-dive into a subdiscipline. We will be offering five different options, subject to sufficient enrollments. The concentration week is included in X429, but the week is now open to any student who wants to enroll for the 1-week concentration and meets the prerequisites.

E432 Field Geology Fundamentals in Montana and Wyoming
4 CREDIT, 3-WEEK (40 hours/week) Virtual Course 22 July – 09 Aug 2024
The virtual, online version of Field Geology Fundamentals is designed to teach students field geology skills, thought processes and workflows without requiring actually travel into the field. It is recommended for students who are unable to participate in rigorous field experience. It focuses on integration of geology, geochemistry and geophysics to solve 4-dimensional geoscience problems and includes a deep-dive into a subdiscipline concentration of your choosing.

- Sedimentary and/or stratigraphy
- Mineralogy and/or petrology
- Structural geology and/or tectonics

Conference descriptions

The concentrations are designed to expose students to research techniques and skills in the various subdisciplines and projects evolve from one year to the next.

X429c/498c Igneous Extrusive and Intrusive Systems uses field relationships and geochemistry to unravel the geologic history and petrogenesis of a local geologic complex.

X429e/498e Environmental Geology and Surface Hydrology studies the impacts of mining and other human activity on rock, water, and soil systems.

X429i/498i Quantitative Structural Geology uses balanced cross sections to validate possible geometries and quantify shortening in orogenic belts.

X429s/498s Sequence Stratigraphy, Depositional Facies, and Paleoclimate studies the relationships of depositional facies, sedimentary structures, fossil assemblages, and geochemistry to unravel depositional environment and paleoclimate interpretations.

X429g/498g Digital Mapping Techniques uses quantitative methods to validate possible geometries and quantify geologic process on the landscape.

Access our courses online at https://iugfs.indiana.edu/courses/index.html

INFORMATION FOR ENROLLMENT:
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These courses are physically demanding. The typical week is six 8-hour field days with lectures and work sessions in the evening. It is normal to hike 6-10 miles each day in terrain that may reach 1,500’ of vertical relief. Average daily temperatures can range from 40°F at night to 90°F during the day. The SW Montana climate is generally dry, but we can experience rain, and even snow any day during the summer.

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