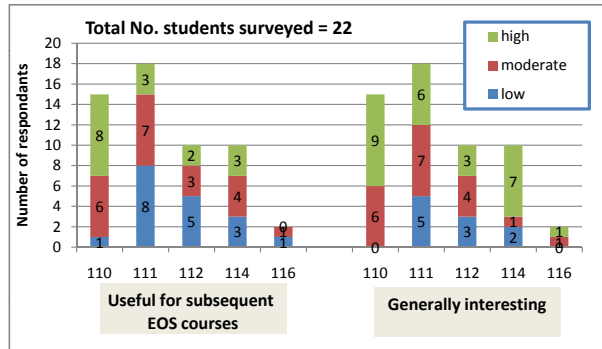


**On-line survey for EOS students only, regarding eos1xx courses. April 2008**

Graph of responses given to two questions posed about five eos1xx courses.



Complete answers to four open-ended questions from all students who responded.

**3. What is the most positive thing you can say about the EOSC1xx course(s) you took?**

Stu. # q3

- 1 EOSC 111 was very flexible to my interests (allowing me to choose the labs that appealed to me most). It also provided an excellent overview of the opportunities in the faculty of Earth and Ocean Sciences. The class was hands on, which made it all the better. EOSC 114 was one of my favorite courses. It covered many EOSC topics and utilized different professors for each topic.
- 2 Not too hard, generally interesting content. (110) Somewhat enjoyed the topics of the web labs. would like to see real labs on them (111).
- 3
- 4 Good general overview of key geoscience concepts.
- 5
- 6 The content was very interesting.
- 7 it was geology 100 when i took it and it was a great course .. fantastic slides
- 8 Excellent instructors at the time I took it. It introduce alot of topics and provided a good overview of all aspects of geology.
- 9 Usefull material that is usually presented in an appealing and inspiring way.
- 10 The exams' format.
- 11 I passed.
- 12
- 13 They were very interesting.
- 14 110 - I would say the instructor (Dileep Athaide) was a major factor which made the course one of my favorites. I perceived him as being genuinely interested in teaching which was reflected by the students and their willingness to ask questions. Furthermore, he provided local facts of interest which made the material we were learning more concrete. In my opinion, the day field-trip was one of the highlights of the course.
- 15 they give a good broad overview of what earth and ocean sciences is about.
- 16 Interesting material.
- 17
- 18 I went through the ATSC program without taking any of these courses mainly because I didn't know about them in first year. I was busy with fulfilling my program requirements after that so I didn't get the chance to take any of these since I didn't really need them.
- 19
- 20
- 21 I took my first year EOSC courses at UBC-O and they were EESC 111 and 121 taught by Dr. Greeough. He was a great prof who wanted his students to get interested in earth science. He was enthusiastic, knowledgeable, funny, and I always looked forward to his class. From what I hear from UBC-V students the courses I took were much more in depth and prepared me much better for the 200 level courses here in Vancouver.
- 22 I got an A+. I liked the instructor. The general nature of the material suited me.
- 23 they always provide a broad but interrelated view of whatever the subject is. It's always easy to see why the subject matter is important and applicable
- 24 it's not dull, profs make the class very interactive
- 25
- 26 A lot more interesting than any other first year science course.
- 27 They are extremely relevant to our daily lives. They helped me understand environmental issues (i.e. global warming) and made me notice the things we were learning about as they happen worldwide. For instance, EOSC114 made me realize how many natural disasters occur regularly, and helped me understand how they happen.
- 28 It was a good introduction to geology.
- 29 A great overview of common geology knowledge.
- 30 111: the students can choose 5 out of 10 labs, so that the students have the option to learn more and have a better chance to do well in the course. 114: the course covers a variety of topics, and each of the topics is taught by an expert in that field.

#### 4. What is the first thing you would do to change the EOSC1xx course(s) you took?

Stu. # q4

- 1 There is nothing I can think to change.
- 2 110, not much. the 111 labs were fairly boring and unnecessary, would get better equipment and change the topics.
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 Make them more enjoyable for science/EOSC students. Right now they are very geared towards arts/other faculties and not beneficial to science students.
- 7 ditch the power points .. they're just a crutch
- 8 I can't think of anything
- 9 Improve student cooperation, maybe a project or two where you get to meet people instead of not knowing anyone at the end of the year (unless they were your friend already).
- 10 A portion of the material in 116 seemed completely irrelevant to the course. (Can't remember what it was called but it wasn't the paleontology part.)
- 11 Get rid of tests that are entirely multiple choice, I think short answer and longer questions allow the student to demonstrate what they know better.
- 12
- 13 I would make eosoc 111 a bit more challenging.
- 14 112 - The Swing space lecture hall in my opinion is an anonymous lecture space. For introductory courses, I think a surrounding context (perhaps EOSC posters on the wall, rotating displays of current research, etc.), would provide stimulation to prepare minds for lecture. Particularly, outside the Swing Space, as people wait outside the door for lecture to begin, it is easy to become tired and braindead. Careful design of the surrounding atmosphere would also be a way to inform students about important EOSC areas of interest, issues, etc.
- 15 cater them a little more towards science students than arts students, as they are courses in the faculty of science.
- 16 Smaller classes
- 17
- 18 no comment
- 19
- 20
- 21 I didn't take any of the courses here but from what I hear from my friends there should be more in depth material presented to get students more ready for 200 level courses
- 22 See below
- 23 Less powerpoint. Seriously. Use powerpoint for pictures, graphs and animations. It is NOT a tool for you to force more information into a given lecture period so do NOT try to cover more material than you would if you were writing it up on an overhead projector. If you're flipping through writing on slides faster than you can write it, you're probably going faster than the students can absorb it.
- 24
- 25
- 26 Less pure memorization in eosoc 114
- 27 There isn't anything I would change. All the courses were informative and enjoyable.
- 28 No change needed.
- 29 reduced the expectation to know non important details. Stress concept understanding not details that are not relevant to the understanding of the content. For example, I recall being asked a question of the name or date of a large mudflow. It would have been more useful to test my knowledge of a mudflow.
- 30 111: the sign up for each week's lab 114: to a smaller class size

#### 5. Is there anything you experienced in any other course that you believe we should incorporate into any of the EOSC1xx course(s)?

Stu. # q5

- 1 Not that I can think of.
- 2 for 110, the concept of facies correlation, like its done in 222, maybe in less detail though.
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 More comprehensive homework assignments/ practice questions.
- 7
- 8 I think some type of research project or paper could be useful.
- 9 PRS questions might be useful and also more group interaction.
- 10 Not really. I liked the way the courses went.
- 11 More emphasis on basic geology, plate tectonics, intro to minerals id and rock id. Questions that put you in geological situations that you have to solve, for example determine the oldest and youngest rock in a geological area based on cross cutting etc. The wording in multiple choice is an issue, every question turns into a trick question. Feedback would be nice, which I didn't get in any first year eosoc course. A teacher that is not in research that has time to properly convey basic concepts and works through relevant examples in class. A full year geology course with a lab is what's needed to succeed in 2nd year eosoc classes.
- 12
- 13
- 14 I think workshops on advanced computer analysis skills would be beneficial.
- 15 N/A

- 16  
17  
18 no comment  
19  
20  
21 pretty much what i said above  
22 Yes, but in addition I'm going to vent. If students intend to continue in geology some of the fundamentals of geology that should be introduced are; a geology dictionary, a mineral/rock identification book, a book on structure, make a thin section so the process can be demystified, be prepared for the less than interesting parts that are not useful unless one plans to continue into academia. Way too much of geology that is taught at UBC is obscure and forgotten once the exams are done, or never learned. Keep the obscure stuff for grad school. UBC is generally not a particularly good school for undergrads. In particular geology classes are too often impractical. I haven't used MATLAB since 211. If you don't know Excel you are on your own. Fix the labs so they are organized. Get nearly all the instructors to revamp their course for organization and some sort of progression from one class to another. Get a library for, if not of books, then at least of thin sections, rocks, minerals, fossils, etc. One needs to be able to review all the time. The success of teaching with printouts is dubious. Too many instructors don't know how to teach or don't care. It is obvious that Francis cares about teaching because of the effort he has put into learning about how to teach. Some may not like Problem-based learning but Francis has built his class from the ground up. Dominique and James have a well organized class. There are other classes that are not organized.
- 23 No. we're good.  
24  
25  
26 No  
27 No. EOSC courses were generally my favourites.  
28 None  
29  
30

#### 8. How did you decide to major in an EOS discipline?

Stu. # q8

- 1 I had already decided to major in Atmospheric Science the previous summer, but the storm section of 114 made me certain my choice was the correct one.  
2 Needed to get out of traditional science stream (biol, chem, physics etc), needed something more applied.  
3  
4  
5 Environmental Science, it recently moved to the EOS department. Sorry, I'm not much help.  
6 Learning about the earth around me has always been very interesting to me.  
7 seemed like a good idea considering the job market now  
8 Partly due to my interest in EOSC 110. More importantly I was looking for a major that would lead to a job that involved more than just office work. I enjoyed many sciences and geology was one in particular that seemed applicable and interesting.
- 9 The alternate choice from the original one I thought was interesting. Also it is the most relevant discipline I see in the world today, one of the few sciences where it is a priority to learn about.  
10 The 100 level materials were all pretty interesting.  
11 I'm interested in how the body functions and the way the earth works. I applied to hkin and science, here we are.  
12  
13 I took a course within eos as an elective and found it interesting.  
14 For me, it was a career change decision out of interest in the ocean and concerns about climate change.  
15 i always thought learning about the earth was interesting, so i just chose EOS  
16 Sheer luck.  
17 It's what I'm most interested in.  
18 I chose to major in ATSC because ATSC 201 was a very interesting course and MATLAB quite fun (EOSC 211).  
19 due to my interest  
20 I chose to enter Environmental Science and then it was moved over to EOS. I think it was a good move.  
21 I like learning how the earth works and has evolved and using that knowledge to gain economic advantages  
22 Work. Peak oil.  
23 Enviro Sci was the only program with enough structure that I didn't have to feel like I was completely on my own, but with enough flexibility that I could pretty much take whatever classes I wanted and they would count towards my degree
- 24 i decided after taking 114  
25 I thought I was going to an honors in oceanography and biology, but because I transferred was not able to, so the next best thing was a major.  
26 Took some early courses, liked them, so kept taking higher level ones.  
27 The courses I took were very interesting to me, and I felt they tied in with Environmental Science, which is also a major that I am considering.  
28 It runs in the family.  
29 I have always enjoyed geology and was instantly attracted to the subject after my first course in it.  
30 EOSC 114 included topics in geology, oceanography, and atmospheric science. I was interested in the relationships between the land, water, and atmosphere in order to understand how the earth works as a system. therefore, I decided to take the EOS major program since I will be able to take courses from different disciplines.