

**Down to Earth**  
"Earth science learning for all"

# Rocks from the pressure cooker: Metamorphic rocks



## A distance learning course for adults Commencing January 2018

### KEY INFORMATION

<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	Rocks from the pressure cooker: metamorphic rocks & processes
<b>LEVEL:</b>	The course is designed for anyone interested in learning more about metamorphism and how metamorphic rocks are made and classified
<b>DATES:</b>	The course commences on January 8th. and ends on March 19th. (break 25/2)
<b>DELIVERY:</b>	The course will be delivered via a series of online or mailed tutorials, plus an opportunity to take part in a day school
<b>COURSE TUTOR:</b>	Chris Darmon, supported by Colin Schofield
<b>CONTACT:</b>	email: <a href="mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk">downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk</a> or tel. 0114 2455746

### BACKGROUND

The tutor has had extensive field experience in the UK and abroad over a 40-year career. He has been involved with the teaching of adults in Sheffield for over 30 years; for the LEA, the University of Sheffield and the Workers' Education Association. For the past eight years he has had experience of delivering distance learning courses to students around the country. Colin Schofield, the course manager, is also a geologist and has much experience in supporting distance learners on these courses.

This course is a natural extension of that work, with potential learners based anywhere in the UK and even beyond. It will be sent via email direct to you or you can do it by post. The course will be hosted on the free to use learning platform Moodle, with access by password. The benefit of Moodle is that you can be involved with your fellow learners via discussion forums etc.

### OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Our aim is to provide a relaxed learning environment in which we can all learn both from the tutor and each other. We hope that everyone will want to complete the tasks we set you, though nobody will be insisting that you do. Feedback and positive encouragement will always be given - we want you to gain knowledge and confidence from everything you do! We encourage you to share ideas and experiences via Moodle. Once again, this is down to your choice - nobody will be insisting that you do.

***To protect our materials, we must ask you to agree not to share them with anyone not enrolled on the course by any means, including email. This is a condition of you enrolling on this course.***

### THIS COURSE

The course is all about the process of metamorphism and the metamorphic rocks that result. Metamorphism has a reputation for being hard to understand and has often been poorly taught. My principle aim is to make the process easy to understand and appreciate, without recourse to complex issues around chemistry and physics or the use of lots of terminology. Metamorphism can be understood by anyone with a broad understanding of the basics of geology and most importantly, can be fun! I'll be making much of cooking analogies in my quest to make metamorphism easy to understand.

### COURSE AIMS

- To appreciate the range of different metamorphic rocks and be able to describe and identify them in the field
- To understand the different minerals that make up metamorphic rocks
- To establish the 'ground rules' of metamorphism
- To appreciate the different metamorphic rocks and their minerals
- To determine how best to classify metamorphic rocks
- To outline some aspects of Britain's metamorphic past

***We recommend that you sit down and decide what you would like to get out of this course. Only by doing this will you be able to tell us if we are not delivering what you are looking for in the course. Your satisfaction is what we are seeking in everything that we do.***

### COURSE CONTENT

*What follows is not intended to be prescriptive, but provides an overview of the topics to be covered in this course.*



- **Let's look at metamorphic rocks** - a first look at some of the unique characteristics metamorphic rocks
- **Ready, steady cook 1 - the ingredients** - the minerals that make up metamorphic rocks
- **Ready, steady cook 2 - the processes** - the variables of the metamorphic process
- **How we classify metamorphic rocks** - it's all a matter of grade
- **Metamorphic rocks and plate tectonics** - metamorphic rocks and their tectonic settings
- **Don't get too close to the fire!** - a detailed look at contact metamorphic rocks
- **Who's for a hot, tight squeeze?** - a detailed look at regional metamorphic rocks
- **Japan & the Marquis of Anglesey's column!** - the strange rocks of island arcs
- **All stressed out** - rocks associated with major fault movements
- **Scotland's world famous metamorphic rocks** - the Lewisian, Moinian and Dalradian

**Everyone enrolling will receive a course timetable and further information by way of an introduction to the course and our way of presentation.**

### DAY SCHOOLS

We will be holding three days Metamorphic Rock workshops in support of this course, with lots of practical work with specimens. See timetable and venues below. You can attend these and pay the discounted prices shown below.

**January 24, Lapworth Museum, Birmingham £15.00**

**February 3, Newcastle upon Tyne £20.00**

**February 14, Devizes, Wiltshire £25.00 (includes lunch)**

**March 21, Lee Valley, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire £30.00 (includes lunch)**

### PRACTICAL POINTS

- To do this course electronically you'll need a computer with access to the internet. You'll also need a valid email address - please supply it at the time of enrolment. Units will be sent as pdf files. A broadband connection would be very helpful, but is not essential.
- To access Moodle we'll give you the simple instructions and a password

### COURSE MATERIALS

**Textbook:** Sadly, there is no suitable text in print at the present time. We will be advising you of suitable online materials.

**Metamorphic rocks:** A set of 16 well chosen specimens covering all the major types and including a free metamorphic rock datacard £29.95 including postage in the UK. (If you collect these at the day school, or from our shop, the price will be £25.95)

### THE COST

The online cost is £75.00 and covers the provision of all the online materials, MOODLE support and the day school tuition as described. To have the materials posted, the cost is £100.00.

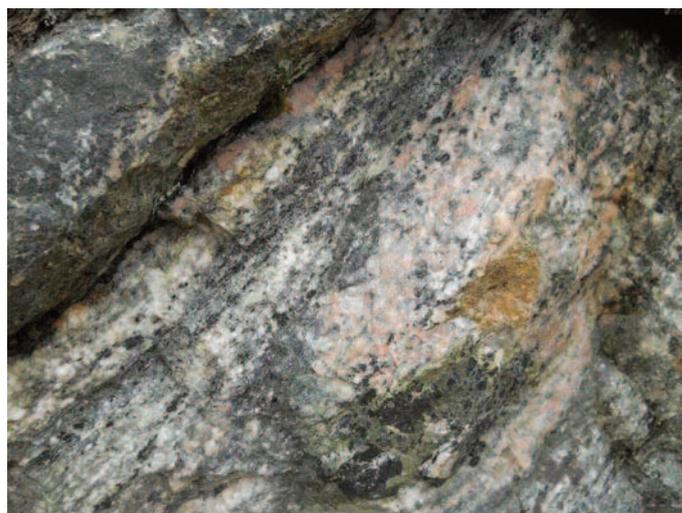
### ENROLLING

To enrol on this course you can do so via our website:-

**[www.geosupplies.co.uk](http://www.geosupplies.co.uk)  
or you can ring us on 0114 2455746**

You can also send a cheque to the following address (made payable to "Geo Supplies Ltd"):-

**Geo Supplies Ltd., 49 Station Road, Chapeltown,  
Sheffield, S35 2XE**



### LOOKING FOR HELP?

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact the tutor, Chris Darmon by email:-

**[downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk](mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk)  
or you can call: 0114 245 5746**

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