



Introduction & timetable

KEY INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE:	Simply Minerals! - 6 hour-long live Zoom sessions plus specimens & materials
LEVEL:	The course is primarily aimed at adults who want to know more about minerals and how to identify them. It would also be useful to keen school/college students
DATES:	The course is on Tuesdays at 2pm commencing November 7th for 6-weeks
DELIVERY:	Course participants can access supporting materials in print form, or by Moodle and Email. Printed papers cost £15.00 extra. A weekly Zoom meeting is at the heart of this course, Tuesdays at 2pm
COURSE TUTORS:	Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield
CONTACT:	email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk or tel. 0114 2455746

Do you want to know more about minerals?

If your answer to the question above is yes - then this is the course for you! This is our response to the people who have asked us for something that will help them to get more out their field studies. Simply Minerals! does what it says in the title - it gives you all the essential lowdown on all the major groups: rock forming minerals, metallic ores, gangue minerals and even evaporites. The course begins with the major elements found in the Earth's crust - our cupboard of chemicals!

We don't pretend that this is your complete guide to minerals, but it lays the foundations for further study and will help you to sort your calcite from your quartz, your barite from your fluorite! To help you with your practical hands on experience, the cost of this course includes a complimentary set of essential specimens covering all the major mineral types.

We're sure that together we're going to have a good time and by the end of it, you'll know lots about minerals of all types. The aim of this sheet is to give you the basic information to enable you to get started as soon as we push the button!

If, after reading this, you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me either by phone on 0114 245 5746, or by email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

Getting Started...

Over the course of 6-weeks we're going to be exploring the world of minerals. I will be presenting the live Zoom sessions from the Geo Supplies base in Sheffield, assisted in by my friend and colleague Colin Schofield, from his home in Rochdale. Colin is in charge of the technical side and will introduce everyone to the benefits of our free to use learning platform Moodle.

The course will be presented in two ways, firstly by weekly live Zoom sessions and secondly through additional materials that you can access electronically or in printed form. We strongly recommend everyone to access Moodle. My colleague Colin Schofield will be in contact to help you to get onto Moodle. **(Colin's Email: downtoearthgeology@outlook.com)**

Colin will be adding lots of additional information using Moodle and it's also the place for discussion forums for you to share your questions and comments with other course members. (It'll be possible to share your pictures with others should they be compact enough). If links are found to videos that tell the story better than we can, then they will be there and lastly of course it's more convenient than attachments sent to your email address. Colin will act as first respondent for any Moodle queries or forum questions and Chris will come in as necessary.

Course timetable...

Listed below are the topics, that will be presented in the order shown.

November 7	The Earth's chemical store
November 14	How we study minerals
November 21	The rock forming minerals
November 28	Ore minerals
December 5	Gangue minerals
December 12	Evaporite minerals

What's included in the course fee...

- **Six hour long Zoom sessions**
- **A set of 20+ mineral specimens to get you going**
- **Brief notes to accompany the specimens**
- **Field Studies Council mineral identification chart**

Cost...

The course fee is **£60.00** for one person, or for two people studying together it is **£80.00***, which includes all of the above. If you would like the additional materials in printed form, this is **£15.00** extra. (* Covers for one set of specimens and accompanying materials.)

Practical points...

- To take part in this course, you'll need a computer, iphone or tablet with access to the internet. You'll also need a valid email address - please supply this at the time of enrolment.
- Additional background material will be available as pdf files, or can be supplied in printed form by mail. A broadband connection would be very helpful, but is not essential.
- To access Moodle, Colin will give you some simple instructions and a password.
- To take part in the live Zoom presentations, you'll obviously need a camera and microphone.
- To access the Zoom sessions, the same login details are used for the whole course (see below):

Further aids to your studies...

As this course includes practical study, a hand lens x10 is recommended. If you would like to purchase one, we suggest visiting our online shop at: www.geosupplies.co.uk or ring us on: 0114 245 5746

Important information for all enrolled learners

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.