



# Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

## Steps towards the rock face A 11-week Distance learning course for all

### KEY INFORMATION

<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	Steps towards the rock face: introducing geology
<b>LEVEL:</b>	The course is designed for anyone interested in learning the basics of what we call geology, no previous knowledge is assumed. It covers rocks, minerals, fossils & so much more!
<b>COURSE FEES:</b>	£75.00 by email, £50.00 student under-19, £100.00 by post, it includes a free day trip
<b>DATES:</b>	The course runs for 11-weeks from January 8 and ends on March 26 (break 26/2)
<b>DELIVERY:</b>	The course will be delivered via a series of online or mailed tutorials, plus unlimited access to Moodle, our online learning site
<b>COURSE TUTORS:</b>	Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield
<b>CONTACT:</b>	email: <a href="mailto:downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk">downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk</a> or tel. 0114 2455746

### 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 - if you are happy to do this, it can be facilitated on Moodle quite easily in a forum. Once again, this is down to your choice - nobody will be insisting that you do.

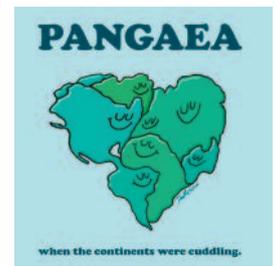
**To protect our materials, we must ask you to agree not to share them with anyone not enrolled on the course by any means, including email. This is a condition of you enrolling on this course.**

### THIS COURSE

How and where do we start out on our journey of discovery about planet Earth? To some it will begin with the materials, the rocks, minerals and fossils. To others it begins with the landscape; what we see around us as we walk, cycle or motor through the countryside. In this course we embrace both of these, but there's an even more fundamental fact about Earth - deep time, 4,650 million years of it to be precise and that's where we will begin. In just 11 weeks we'll give you an introduction to all the main aspects of planet Earth with just enough detail to leave you wanting to know more. Beyond this course, we already have several second level course, with more in the pipeline.

### COURSE AIMS

- To appreciate the enormity of deep Earth time
- To appreciate and understand how landscapes form
- To understand the range of Earth materials and how they form
- To outline how the Earth works and has evolved through time
- To outline the story of life on Earth
- To examine something of the vast array of useful materials provided by planet Earth
- To see something of the incredible journey of the United Kingdom through time



### COURSE CONTENT

- **Earth in time & space** - delve into deep time with a lively and fun hands-on session, also presented via online picture challenges
- **Reading the view** - what makes landscape? How do we know what lies beneath us and the lie of the rocks? Open your eyes to a real understanding of landscape - you'll be amazed!
- **Opening up the Earth's chemistry store** - the elements that make up the Earth's surface that then go on to make minerals, that then make rocks. The rock cycle, the three types of rocks and how they relate to each other.
- **Rocks from the fiery zone** - igneous rocks from volcanoes and deep within the Earth.
- **Drip, drip, drip and a very wet Wednesday afternoon** - sedimentary rocks and the processes that made them
- **Rocks from the pressure cooker** - the amazing story of how rocks like marble and slate come to be formed.
- **Our mobile Earth** - an insight into the story of how we discovered the workings of our planet, a journey that takes us to the highest peaks and to the bottom of the deepest ocean.
- **Bend me, break me** - given time, heat and pressure there's nothing we can't do to rocks! This is the story of folds and faults, where we present you with some of the best of British.
- **Life, but not necessarily as we know it** - the story of the ups and downs of life on Earth over the past 4 billion years. From microbes to dinosaurs, trilobites to *Homo sapiens*, Earth has seen them all.
- **Earth in the service of mankind** - our planet has so many rich materials, from gold to potash, oil and gas to mercury. We examine how the riches of the Earth have been used to provide us with the things that we take for granted.
- **Postcards from the past** - some glimpses through time at what it would have been like in the United Kingdom over the past 700 million years. Hang on, for the ride of a lifetime!

**If you have any questions or queries - contact Chris Darmon as follows:-**

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**Enrol online at: [www.geosupplies.co.uk](http://www.geosupplies.co.uk) or ring us as above**