

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY FIELD STATION
GEOL 302 GEOLOGY SUMMER FIELD COURSE 2025**



**COURSE NUMBER,
CREDIT AND
PREREQUISITES:**

Geology 302 Geology Summer Field Studies (6 credits)

May 27 – July 2, 2025 (6 weeks)

Prerequisites

Introductory Physical Geology

Introductory Historical Geology

Earth Materials (mineralogy and petrology)

Structural Geology

Sedimentology/Stratigraphy

Introductory Field Methods in Geology

WEBSITE

<http://camp.ge-at.iastate.edu>

LOCATION

Iowa State University Field Station near Shell, Wyoming.

FACILITIES:

The field station underwent an extensive renovation in 2014. The Smith Lodge includes a kitchen, dining room, and staff quarters. Students are housed in the West and East Dorms with a total of 12 rooms. Each room includes two sets of bunk beds, storage space for personal items, and a full bathroom. A fourth building holds a classroom and laundry facility.

COSTS:

Iowa Resident Students

Estimated Registration and Tuition Fees* \$2800

Field Camp Fee (Travel, Room & Board, Supplies, etc.) \$2700

TOTAL \$5500

Non-resident Students

Estimated Registration and Tuition Fees** \$3800

Field Camp Fee (Travel, Room & Board, Supplies, etc.) \$2700

TOTAL \$6500

*ISU Geology/Earth Science Majors may be required to pay an additional \$456 of differential tuition: [Differential tuition rates for Experiential Learning Based Majors](#)

**The amount shown is the final non-resident tuition cost and reflects an adjustment to ensure field camp remains financially accessible for all students. Please contact Aaron Wood (awood@iastate.edu) for more details.

**APPLICATION
PROCEDURES:**

A maximum of 28 students will be accepted.

Applications (separate form) received by **March 10, 2025**, will be fully considered for enrollment. Enrollment priority, however, will be given to students from Iowa State University.

GENERAL SCHEDULE: Leave Ames at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 27, 2025.
Arrive at the field station mid-afternoon Thursday, May 29, 2025.
Return to Iowa State Campus on Wednesday, July 2, 2025.

IMMUNIZATION AND PHYSICAL CONDITION: Students should follow immunization requirements of Iowa State University:
<https://health.iastate.edu/new-students/immunization-requirements/>

We strongly encourage students to be immunized for tetanus before attending field camp.

Students should be in good physical condition, prepared for strenuous hiking in hot or cold weather.

All students are required by Iowa State University to carry personal health insurance.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES: Weather in Wyoming can vary from daytime temperatures of 35-105°F and nighttime temperatures of 25-70°F. Rainfall and thunderstorms are expected during late spring whereas weather during mid to late summer is typically hot and dry. The minimum equipment suggested for each student includes:

Necessities:

- Field clothing for 6 days
- Hiking boots, already broken in
- Gloves, wool hat
- Warm clothing (winter jacket)
- Rain gear, minimally a rain poncho
- Toiletries (e.g., shampoo, soap, skin cream, etc.)
- Flashlight
- Sheets, blanket, and pillow (field station)
- Sleeping bag and pad
- Towel(s), washcloth(s)
- Quarters for laundry (1 roll minimum)
- Laptop/tablet with WIFI capabilities and Google Earth preinstalled

Field gear & mapping supplies:

Note: GPS units, mapping tablets, and field notebooks are supplied by the field station.

- Geology compass or surveying compass
- Pens for inking maps (0.3 mm black, blue, and green)
- Mechanical pencils (0.5 mm lead) with erasers
- Protractor – plastic, 6 inches
- Clipboard
- Engineers scale
- Rock hammer
- 10x Hand lens
- Camera and scale for photos
- Water bottles/water pack (3 liters minimum)
- Sunscreen and hat
- UV protection sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Day pack to carry all items

MAILING ADDRESS
AND PHONE:

I.S.U. Geology Field Station, 1800 U.S. Highway 14 E, Shell, WY 82441
(307) 765-2997 (May 29 – July 1, 2025, only)

RECOMMENDED
READING:

It is not necessary for students to attempt any reading program before arriving at the field station. “Rising above the Plains” by John McPhee is highly recommended; however, for those interested, brief background information also may be found in various guidebooks and publications of the Wyoming Geological Association and the Wyoming Geological Survey.

TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Transportation from Ames, Iowa, to the field station will be provided for all students by Iowa State University. We strongly encourage all students to travel to the field station with the main convoy of university vehicles. Students will meet at the loading dock of Science Hall when departing for the field station. The loading dock can be accessed via Pammel Drive.

The caravan will depart promptly at 6:30 a.m. There are areas of geologic interest that may be visited enroute to the field station as time permits.

PERSONAL VEHICLES:

Students are allowed to drive their personal vehicles to the field station only under special circumstances and after receiving permission from the Field Station Director. Students may be asked to sign a liability waiver and a separate code of conduct form that pertains to usage of personal vehicles during field camp.

STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES:

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. All students requesting accommodations are required to meet with staff in Student Accessibility Services to establish eligibility.

The provision of reasonable accommodations in this course will be arranged after timely delivery of the accommodations letter to the instructor **prior to departure for the field station.**

Additional information is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services (1076 Student Services Building) is a unit in the Dean of Students Office.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Aaron R. Wood (awood@iastate.edu) if you have further questions.