EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE (BS) - GEOLOGY TRACK

Program Overview
Geology encompasses the study of minerals, rocks, ancient life and Earth history, earthquakes, volcanoes, flooding, coastal erosion, tsunami, mountain belts, economic resources, landslides, environmental pollution and water resources. Geologists are, in fact, among the primary workers engaged in studying and protecting the Earth’s environment.

Students in the B.S. Earth and Space Sciences-Geology track take fundamental coursework in the fields of mineralogy and petrology, sedimentology and stratigraphy, structural geology and tectonics, hydrology and geochemistry, geomorphology, paleontology, paleoclimate and environmental geology. Most courses include a laboratory, and many include a field component. In preparation for upper level geology coursework, students take one year of chemistry and physics courses, as well as calculus. Interested students may have the opportunity to participate in undergraduate research with geology faculty.

Career Opportunities
From mineral and energy exploration, to monitoring of volcanoes and landslides, to environmental protection and regulation; geologists are employed in a wide variety of fields across the globe. Many geologists work in the fields of energy and mineral exploration, where salaries are the most lucrative. Other geologists work to protect society from volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, and floods. Some geologists study Earth history in order to understand changes in life, climate and other Earth systems through time. A significant number of geologists work to protect society from environmental degradation, including soil and water pollution, and are employed in both the private and public sector. Many of these geologists are employed as environmental scientists, which along with geoscientists are consistently ranked among the fastest growing occupations in the U.S. economy by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.