Santa Barbara City College
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Earth 133 - Geologic Field Seminar of the Colorado Plateau

4 Units
May 30 - June 13, 2026

This fifteen-day expedition takes you deep into the heart of the Southwest while exploring the breathtaking landscapes of **Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, Zion**, and more. We'll travel across northern Arizona, Utah, and Colorado, uncovering the geologic stories written in stone.

This isn't your average class, it's an honors-level field experience where you'll bring your classroom geology knowledge to life in the field. Each student becomes both explorer and expert: you'll **research, present, and lead discussions** on topics tied to the places we visit. By the end, you won't just have visited some of the most spectacular parks on Earth, you'll understand how they formed, evolved, and connect to the bigger picture of our planet's story.

Instructors

Dr. Stephanie Mendes and **Dr. Bill Dinklage** will provide instruction throughout the trip and mentorship on the seminar process. Students will work collaboratively with their mentor(s) to:

- Select a seminar topic
- Design and research the presentation
- Deliver the presentation in the field

Prerequisites

You must have completed at least one geology course with a grade of B or better. Preferences are given to first-time students who have completed a five-day field trip with an A grade.

Academic Supplies

Geologic History of Utah, 2nd ed., 2021, Hintze and Kowallis (Required)

Ancient Landscapes of the Colorado Plateau, Blakey and Ranney (Recommended)

How to Be a Participant

If you feel that you are a good fit for the field trip, please complete the **Request to Participate Form** and return it to Stephanie Mendes **as soon as possible to secure your spot on the trip.** Your instructors will provide you with an add code to register for the class. For further field course information, visit our website!

Logistics

Cost (Field Trip Fees): $215 - Some scholarship assistance is available, see an instructor for details.

Transportation: SBCC vans, ***NO*** *private vehicles*

Food: Meals are prepared in our field kitchen by staff

Accommodations: Camping in National Monument and Park group sites.

Support Staff

Kevin McNichol, Field Lab Technician, organizes and supervises the logistics of the trip and camp setup. Participants on the field course are expected to help daily with general camp chores.

Scholarships

There is a limited amount of scholarship money available to qualified students. Scholarships are based on need and merit, and are first come, first served. **Scholarship applications are accepted and awarded on a rolling basis, but accepted no later than Friday, May 22, 2026.**

Pre-field Trip Orientation Meeting

There will be an orientation meeting for the trip on **Saturday, May 16, from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm** at SBCC. If you are planning on participating on the trip, please set this date aside. If you absolutely cannot attend, contact Stephanie Mendes as soon as possible.

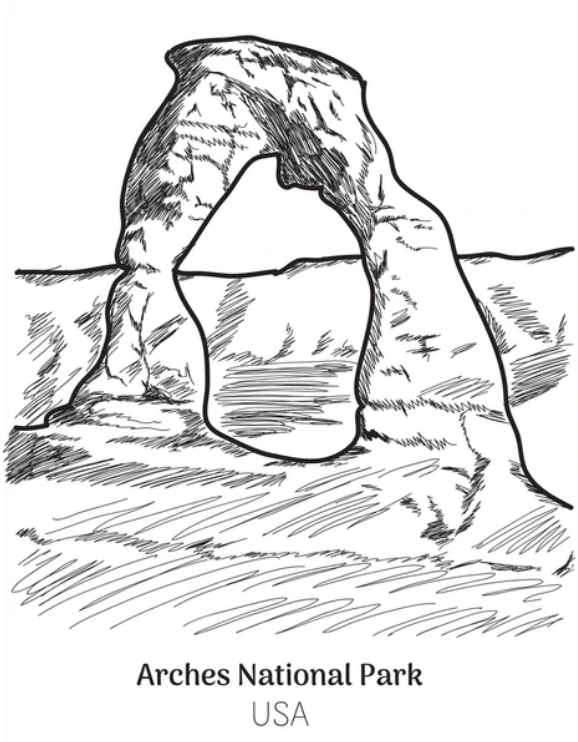
Preparation of Student Presentations May 16 - 29, 2026

Before the field course departs and after your finals will be devoted to the preparation of student presentations for the trip. Instructors, preparation materials, and guidance will be available. If you have unalterable plans and will be unavailable during this week, you **must** see one of the instructors.

For more info:

http://www.sbcc.cc.ca.us/earthscience/erth133.php

Faculty/Staff	E-Mail
Stephanie Mendes	sdmendes@sbcc.edu
Bill Dinklage	wsdinklage@sbcc.edu
Kevin McNichol	kmmcnichol@sbcc.edu



Arches National Park
USA

Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Saturday, May 16	Organizational meeting, 10:00am -12:00pm, SBCC
May 16 - 29	Days to prepare presentations
Friday, May 29	Bring luggage to EBS loading dock no later than 9:00 am
Saturday, May 30	Be on campus at 8:00 am, EBS loading dock
Saturday, June 13	Return to Santa Barbara, late afternoon - early evening
Sunday, June 14	Morning clean-up of vehicles and gear