Welcome to 
Earth & Planetary Sciences
at McGill University

Jeffrey McKenzie
(departmental chair
a.k.a. our
Fearless Leader)
Useful information on the EPS departmental website: www.mcgill.ca/eps

Covid-19 Operations

For information on McGill's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, please visit www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/

Field Trip 2019 - Australia

Raised Pleistocene beach deposits reveal ongoing geodynamic uplift of southeastern South Australia. Undergraduate field-based course, May 2019 led by professors Galverson and McKenzie.

There is also a Earth System Science web site maintained by Bill Minarik.
First stop for help is usually our main office, FDA 238. Or: e-mail!

Knows the McGill bureaucracy. Helps you register in courses, apply for scholarships (and will recruit you for the EPS hockey team... whenever it starts again.)
Anne is our senior administrative officer, in nearby FDA 239.

Gets graduate students paid, is the organizer behind many of our social events.
Our computer network specialist.

She assists Kristy with getting you on (or off) the EPS or ESS undergrads mailing list.
Prof. Jeff McKenzie (FDA, our departmental chairperson)  

Prof. Jeanne Paquette (FDA 214), departmental academic adviser and director of undergraduate studies in Earth & Planetary Sciences.

Prof. Bill Minarik (FDA 215) is departmental academic adviser for the Earth System Science programs.

*Looking for a professor’s office?*

*A board next to the door of the main office (FDA238) lists all our offices.*

*Need to contact your TA? Use e-mail first (it’s good practice to also cc: the course instructor).*

Current capacity: **limited to 10 students** at any time.

Can be used to work.

Mask must be worn.

**Sadly, for now: no eating or drinking.**

Our classroom space is limited, and offers relatively little “flex space” outside of class time. If any can be offered, the rules (maximum occupancy, 1m spacing) and a schedule (when is the classroom available) will be posted at the door after the add/drop (Tuesday September 14).

Current capacity: **limited to 10 students** at any time.

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**Sadly, for now: no eating or drinking in FDA 312.**

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FDA 229-230: an departmental lounge on ID card access. A microwave can be used by anyone who needs to spend time in our department. Limited seating space where you can eat (unmasked) while maintaining a 2-m distance.

Mask must be worn if you are coming just to use the microwave.

If you are an undergraduate student taking our courses, you can ask to be given card access. E-mail kristy.thornton@mcgill.ca or anne.kosowski@mcgill.ca
Departmental social events: planned to be safe. No need to ask – you are always welcome to join in.

Mont Royal - Picnic
In early October (if the weather is nice).

Graduate Research symposium (what your TA does) November 5. Hybrid (Zoom/in-person talks, posters)

A one-day field trip to Quadeville, Ontario, is being planned for a Saturday in October. Bus seating will be limited to meet safety protocols.
The EPS website: very “busy-looking” with news and events beyond the department. Most of our internal events are announced by e-mail to lists of graduate and undergraduate students. If you think you are missing announcements that your peers are getting, e-mail Kristy Thornton to be added (if it’s too much mail, ask to be removed).

Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Sep</td>
<td>Bicentennial Mini-Science: Charting a Course to Global Sustainability in the 21st Century</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td>NFB Ocean Shool</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Sep</td>
<td>Bicentennial STARS: Earth &amp; Planetary Sciences research presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Oct</td>
<td>Bicentennial Mini-Science: The future of the environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Oct</td>
<td>Bicentennial STARS: Pain Research with the Roy Pain Lab</td>
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News

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 1</td>
<td>Climate change artist-in-residence to curate bicentennial art show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Jeffrey McKenzie elected Fellow of the Geological Society of America</td>
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<td>Jul 8</td>
<td>OSE First-Year Student Panel</td>
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<td>Jul 6</td>
<td>Virtual Eurêka Festival launches</td>
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<td>Jun 30</td>
<td>Faecal records show Maya population affected by climate change</td>
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Advising: ideally, come see each year (late spring, late August/early September) to plan the year ahead

- EPSC courses (Astrobiology, Natural Disasters, etc…) at the 100-level cannot count towards a Minor, Major or Honours. They are considered electives in a B.Sc. degree.

- Many EPSC courses numbered at the 300- or higher level are offered once every other year. Those required courses are given to U2 and U3 together: you take them when they come!

- a Minor is not required for a B.Sc. Degree. You can start one and never complete it (if you prefer other subjects in courses that are counted as electives).

- You can take elective courses in Engineering, Management or Music… but you cannot take more than 18 credits (typically 6 courses) outside the Faculty of Arts and Science.
If things go wrong… (failed course, missed final exam)

- Contact an adviser as soon as possible

- We know which issues require a consultation with a Faculty of Science (or Arts) adviser

  (You know which one is assigned to you by looking up his/her name at the top of your online transcript on Minerva)
You can leave the department for another Major in the same program group without applying for a transfer: Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Geography (B.Sc.), Atmosphere & Ocean, Computer Sciences share the same admission standards.

You should first meet the departmental adviser of for the other program you wish to join: there are usually courses that must be taken in a specific sequence.

But you need to get approval from the Director of Advising Service for
- changing program group (e.g. any Life Science)
- transfer to a different Faculty (e.g. Bachelor of Arts or Management).
In-course awards ($500 to $5000) are given at the end of each year.

You are automatically considered for these (i.e. no need to apply) as long as you

• are registered in a Major or Honours in Geology, Planetary Sciences, or Earth Sciences

• students in our minor programs are not eligible

• complete at least 27 credits in the Fall, Winter (Field School 1 will also be counted), and

• obtain a GPA of 3.5 or more in fall-winter (U1 or U2)
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council

Undergraduate Summer Research Awards
- Federal contribution + supervisor contribution
- 16 weeks from May to the end of August
- application deadline always in February
- you should start talking to faculty members in December & January
- McGill funding supports additional Summer Undergraduate Research Awards (SURAs) for international or Canadian students
To work in any one of our laboratories
- you must first get a WHMIS certification
- Anna Jung is our Safety Officer
- WHMIS certification sessions are offered (free) on campus (you sign up online). Find out more at: http://www.mcgill.ca/ehs/training/whmis/

A student who works in a McGill University laboratory should never invite you in that space unless you have a WHMIS certification.

Only enter laboratory space if you have the explicit permission and supervision of a faculty member. Safety matters.
Our laboratory safety officer. She announces the training sessions required for students expecting to use a laboratory.
Kristyn involves undergraduate and graduate students in geoscience outreach activities, sometimes in collaboration with the Redpath Museum.
Considering a term of study abroad?

Over the last 12 years, our students have arranged one or two-semester study abroad…

- Reunion (near Madagascar); Norway; Australia; Glasgow, UK; Alaska (U.S.)
- this year: Iceland and Hong Kong (different students, 1 semester each)

The best year in which to do this is generally your U2 year. You need to be in satisfactory standing and should start planning in December for the following fall term. The courses you select must match reasonably those required in our program. It is easier to match a whole year than one semester.
Prepare a c.v.

Check out CAPS for general advice and job listings.

Attend information sessions offered by mineral & oil & gas exploration companies.

Apply for job interviews.

In U2: apply for the company-sponsored field schools: SIFT and S-IMEW.

http://www.mcgill.ca/caps/

Most years, we get calls or LinkedIn notices from former students who are recruiting for their company.

We circulate those by e-mail.
Several of our students go job hunting in Toronto after the study break… PDAC convention held in March

Many companies in mineral exploration have booths at that convention, and some take c.v.’s from students.
If you expect to become a professional geologist, you may want to find out about the full range of course subjects recognized for professional accreditation.

Physical geography courses:
GEOG 272 Earth’s Changing Surface (in any year)
GEOG 305 Soils and Environment (in U2 or later)
GEOG 306 Raster GIS (""")
GEOG 308 Remote Sensing (""")
GEOG 322 Environmental Hydrology (""")
GEOG 372 Running Water Environments (""")

Mining and Materials Engineering (in your U3 year):
MIME 329 Mining in Geology
MIME 325 Mineral Industry Economics (elective)
MIME 320 Extraction of Energy Resources
Ontario and Western Canada: the professional orders make available online a list of the course subjects that are either required or accepted as complementary courses.
Pour exercer la profession de géologue au Québec

Au Québec, pour pouvoir légalement utiliser le titre de « géologue », ou pour exercer une activité professionnelle réservée aux géologues, on doit être inscrit au Tableau de l’Ordre ou détenir une autorisation spéciale, sauf si la Loi sur les géologues le permet.


Toute personne désirant exercer la géologie au Québec de géologue et s’inscrire au Tableau de l’Ordre des géologues, satisfait aux conditions d’admission.

Alternativement, une personne qui a l’autorisation légale peut obtenir une autorisation spéciale.

Veuillez consulter le lien suivant pour connaître le cad:

Démarches et procédures

Les démarches en vue d’être autorisé à exercer la profession de géologue au Québec varient en fonction de votre situation personnelle et des circonstances du travail à faire. Veuillez identifier ces démarches qui s’appliquent à vous selon les énoncés ci-dessous:
The Monteregian Society
(the EPS/ESS departmental undergraduate society) maintains a listserv and sends news and updates every Monday.

The Adams Club (graduate students in EPS)
The Society of Economic Geology Chapter

Interesting online seminars on new types of earth resources being explored