



Earth Science
University of Colorado Boulder

Department Chair Dr. Anne Sheehan

Welcome to a New Academic Year!

Dear Earth Science Undergraduate Students,



Welcome to the first issue of our weekly undergraduate newsletter for the new academic year! To those just joining us, we're happy to welcome you to our community. To our returning students, welcome back! I hope you had a chance to recharge over the summer, whether that meant traveling, focusing on research, or taking a break.

This newsletter will be your source for department news, upcoming events, deadlines, and opportunities of interest. We'll share job openings, scholarships, and other announcements that won't be distributed elsewhere, so be sure to give it a quick read each week. I hope this newsletter helps you stay connected and informed throughout the year (feedback is welcome!).

I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to connect with others in the department. Our weekly coffee hour every Monday is a great way to catch up with fellow students, faculty, and staff over coffee and other refreshments. On Wednesdays, our colloquium series brings in a broad array of speakers. The Earth Sciences Library also hosts events and workshops throughout the semester, and we'll share that information here. And don't forget about the geology club!

We're glad you're here and look forward to the year ahead.

*Anne Sheehan
Chair, Department of Earth Science*

[Visit Anne's Website](#)

Important Upcoming Deadlines

Registrar & Bursar deadlines

TODAY Friday 8/28 is the **last** day to add a class and waitlists close. **Friday 9/4** is the **last** day to drop a class without a W or negative consequences. View the link below for more information and contact your advisor and/or Kara with questions.

[View Class Search](#)



Department Social Events

Monday Coffee Social is Back!

Coffee Social is back! Join us on **Monday mornings** at **10:30 am - 11:30 am** for coffee, tea, donuts, and other snacks! Located outside Benson by the globes or in 380. Come drop by, say hi and start your week off right!



Colloquium and Happenings



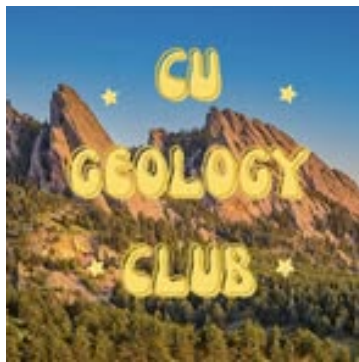
Geological Sciences Colloquium

Next weeks Colloquium will be on **Wednesday, September 2nd** with Pedro Monarrez from Virginia Tech. Located in Benson Science Building **room 380** from **12:20pm - 1:20pm**. Drinks and refreshments will be provided before the talk.

[View Colloquium Schedule](#)

Geology Club Kickoff Meeting

Interested in geology, rocks, fossils, field trips, or just meeting other who like Earth Sciences ? Join the Geology Club for its first meeting of the semester on **Monday, August 31 at 6:30 PM in Benson 185.**



The Geology Club hosts social events, field trips, camping adventures, professional development opportunities, and a welcoming community for students interested in the geosciences. This semester's plans include a club camping trip in early October, regular events throughout the semester, and expanded study and hangout hours. Open to all students!

Locker Requests

Our department is able to offer locker reservations for the lockers on the basement level of Benson Earth Sciences. If you are interested in reserving a locker for this semester or next, requests are now open. There are several ways to reach our locker request form, linked [here](#). You can also stop by the lockers and scan the QR codes, or visit the Geological Sciences webpage and choose the Resources tab. If you have any trouble completing the form, please call (303) 492 8141 or email Geoloffice@colorado.edu.

Departmental Opportunities

Fall Graders

The department is looking for about eight students to serve as graders this semester. If you are interested in helping our professors run in-class activities and grade assignments, please fill out the interest survey below.

Note: this is a paid hourly employment opportunity in the department. The pay rate is \$17.00 per hour for undergrads and \$22.00 per hour for grad students.

[Apply Here](#)

Honors Thesis

Earth science undergraduates interested in pursuing an **honors thesis** are encouraged to explore this opportunity early. An Honors thesis involves completing a multi-semester independent research project with a faculty member or research scientist, followed by a written thesis and oral defense.

Students should have a 3.0+ cumulative GPA and should begin identifying a research mentor early, often during their junior year.

Important Deadline: Students planning to defend their thesis in **Spring 2027** must register with the Honors Program by **September 28, 2026**. Registration requires

a project description, timeline, bibliography, and approval from the Geology Honors Council representative.

Questions? Contact Dr. Brian Hynek at hynek@colorado.edu!

Learn More About a Honors Thesis Here

Fall 2026 Earth Science Student Fall Travel Award

The department is currently accepting applications for travel funds for Fall and Winter 2026 conference travel (September 2026-December 2026). To be eligible for this award, you must be presenting a first-author publication, and you did not previously receive a Travel Award in Spring 2026. Please have a copy of your abstract submission ready to be uploaded before you begin the application.



Apply online: **Fall 2026 Earth Science Student Fall Travel Award – Fill out form**

Please submit your application no later than **11:59pm on Friday, September 4th** for consideration. We will be awarding funds in the third week of September. If you have any questions, please contact Ali at earthsciadmin@colorado.edu.

[Apply Here!](#)

Fall 2026 Earth Science Personal Field Gear Micro-Grant

We are accepting applications for microgrants for personal field equipment. The awards are meant to cover personal field equipment (such as hiking boots, winter coat, etc.) necessary for you to participate in field courses in Fall 2026, up to \$300. To be eligible you must:

1. Be a major in the Earth Science or Geophysics program and;
2. Be enrolled in at least one field course in Fall 2026

To apply, please complete the online form: **Fall 2026 Earth Science Personal Field Gear Micro-Grant Application – Fill out form**

Please submit your application by **11:59pm on Friday, September 4**. If you have any questions, please contact Ali at earthsciadmin@colorado.edu.

[Apply Here!](#)



University Events & Opportunities



Education Abroad Fair

Join us on **Thursday, Sept. 3, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. outside in the UMC Fountain Arcade!**

Recently returned education abroad alumni & education abroad staff will be on hand to share what it's like to live & learn abroad, find affordable programs, and get started on finding the program that's right for you.

[Click here for more info!](#)

*Spring 2027 Study Abroad Programs close between Sept. 1 - Oct. 1

Open House Extravaganza

Join us **Tuesday, Sept. 1, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in CFC S440!** Come and join career services and see all that we have to offer. Learn about career advisors, on-campus jobs, and take a professional photo. Free food will be provided and the first 200 students will have an opportunity for a grand prize!



Department News and Features



Information on CU Book Access

CU Book Access ensures that students have all their required course materials – by day one – at a more affordable price. Here are 2 things to know:

- The program charge will appear on student tuition and fee bills. Students may opt-out of CU Book Access via the textbook portal in Canvas through the course drop deadline each semester for a full refund. The fall drop deadline is **September 4, 2026**.
- Digital materials will be available for students via the “My Course Materials” link in Canvas. Students enrolled in courses requiring print materials will receive a separate email when those materials are ready for pick-up at the CU Book Store.

More Question? Look Here!

Outside the Classroom



Be sure to follow our Instagram page @cu_boulder_geology for updates including upcoming events, department news, and photos from our students!

View our Page

Just so you know...

The undergrad newsletter will be sent out each Friday afternoon, so check back weekly for news, job and funding opportunities, and messages from the department. If you have something you would like to share in a future edition of the newsletter, please fill out the form [here](#).



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