CAUSE 2018: Living on the Edge – Plate Tectonics and Society

The Center for Advanced Undergraduate Studies and Experience (CAUSE) 2018 is an exploration of plate tectonics, from its mechanics to the role it plays in our society. Open to 2nd year EMS students (Commonwealth Campuses and University Park) who will be enrolled at University Park in Fall 2018.

The CAUSE (EMSC 470 Sp/Su/Fall 2018) course has 3 parts:
1. Spring 2018 – synchronous hybrid course (on-line and virtual); 2 credits
2. Maymester 2018 – field trip to the western US (description below); 1 credit
3. Fall 2018 – residential course at University Park with student projects and classroom engagement; 3 credits

Students will carry out individual and team-based projects of their choosing, and will work together virtually and in person across the three semesters. **Cost: $300 plus one credit of summer tuition.**

**Start your upper division courses with a cohort of adventurous peers and dynamic faculty members!** Application Deadline: Oct. 23rd

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Maymester Travel Component

A 2-week trip in May 2018 traces the evolution of the western U.S. from Portland to San Francisco. Course begins with obvious attributes and effects of plate tectonics (Mt. St. Helens, coastal tsunami hazards), then moves south through subduction-related volcanoes (Mt. Hood, Newberry Volcanics) to the Mendocino Triple Junction where the San Andreas Fault is born and subduction is manifest in geothermal features. The plate boundary exploration concludes with a focus on seismic activity, from creeping faults in the suburbs to parts of the San Francisco Bay Area that were flattened by the great earthquake of 1906 and damaged heavily in the 1991 Loma Prieta event.

**Questions? Email:**
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