BOWEN’S REACTION SERIES

Minerals crystallize out of magma and lava at various temperatures based on their composition and crystal structure. Bowen’s Reaction Series was constructed by a Canadian geologist named Norman Bowen - a now famous geologist who used experiments to study how rocks and minerals form (a sub-field of geology called Petrology). Bowen’s Reaction Series is a widely used and referred to sequence in the geosciences that you should familiarize yourself with. Notice that each zoned area on the chart corresponds to a specific set of minerals we associate with the igneous rock classifications ranging from felsic to ultramafic.