Historical Geology – Syllabus for Lecture

INSTRUCTOR
Dr. Benjamin Brunner
Assistant Professor, Geological Sciences
Office: 404A Geology Building
E-mail: bbrunner@utep.edu

Overview: MEETING PATTERN & LOCATION

Historical Geology Lectures:
Instructor: Benjamin Brunner; TA: Hanah Bayer
Mandatory book: Earth System History, Steven M. Stanley and John A. Luczaj
Introduction to Historical Geology (C) - 15504 - GEOL 1314 – 001 (currently 50 students)
Paperback 203.25 (new) 152.0 (used) rent (81.30) digital (125.99)
Class 10:30 am - 11:50 am Monday & Wednesday Geology Building 123

Labs associated with Historical Geology class:
Course Fee(s): Flat - $18.00
Lab for GEOL 1314 (C) - 15502 - GEOL 1104 – 001 (currently 14 students)
Lab Leader: Alondra Soltero
Class 12:30 pm - 2:20 pm Monday Geology Building 216

Lab for GEOL 1314 (C) - 13382 - GEOL 1104 - 01 (currently 16 students)
Class 9:00 am - 10:50 am Tuesday Geology Building 216
Lab Leader: Hanah Bayer

Lab for GEOL 1314 (C) - 17572 - GEOL 1104 – 002 (currently 9 students)
Class 12:30 pm - 2:20 pm Wednesday Geology Building 216
Lab Leader: Alondra Soltero

OFFICE HOURS
Preferred: by appointment via email to Dr. Brunner (bbrunner@utep.edu)
Monday & Wednesday 8:00 am – 9:00 am; Room 404A Geology Building.
COURSE DESCRIPTION
The purpose of this class is to introduce students to the history of the Earth System. We learn about the development and interaction of physical, chemical and biological processes that lead to the today’s Earth System and explore the methods and thought concepts that lead scientists to their interpretations of Earth’s past.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK
Earth System History, Steven M. Stanley and John A. Luczaj.
There will be handouts & material posted on Blackboard.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1) Obtaining an overview of Earth’s Geologic past
   a. Geological, chemical, and biological evolution of Earth
   b. Key events in Earth’s history
   c. Major global tectonic cycles (Supercontinents)
   d. Geological timescale

2) Understanding of tools and concepts that allow scientists to draw conclusions about Earth’s Geologic past
   a. Relative and absolute dating approaches
   b. Evolution
   c. Biogeochemical cycles

3) Ability to apply achievements from objectives 1 and 2 to critical evaluation of statements about Earth’s past, present, and future.
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL

Please contact Dr. Brunner about any concerns, schedule conflicts, etc. in advance or otherwise as soon as possible! A significant portion of your grade is based on participation, so any missed classes and assignments must have proper documentation, or your grade will drop. Valid excuses include illness, absence with the instructor's prior approval, official University business, etc.

Accommodations are possible for active duty military and others, but arrangements must be made in a timely manner. If you are in the military with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

If you think you may have a disability or if you are experiencing learning difficulties, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS), East Union Bldg, Room 106:

Office: 915-747-5148 / Email: cass@utep.edu / https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/

Important notes:
1) Learning in teams is much more effective than learning alone and is highly encouraged.
2) Course Drop Deadline: November 2, 2018:
The College of Science aligns with UTEP’s posted drop date of November 2 for the Fall 2018 semester. The College of Science will not approve any student- or faculty-initiated drop requests for a course after that date, except under circumstances of complete withdrawal of all courses due to medical or non-medical reasons.
3) Absence/Late to class Policy:
Unexcused absence and/or late arrival to class in more than two cases will result in being dropped from class or a failing grade.
See below on how to be excused from absence/late arrival
4) Grades:
Individual Concept Sketches (40%), Individual Quiz (20%), Group Quiz (20%), Final Exam (20%)
Participation in discussion and extra efforts can earn you another 10%.

How to be excused for absence or being late to class:
- Apply to be excused by writing email to bbrunner@utep.edu.
- Subject line MUST include (in this order): Hist Geol 1314 – YOUR NAME – Date of absence
- If absence is foreseeable (examples: job interview, surgery, wedding): before the absence
- If absence was not foreseeable (examples: migraine, car crash, childbirth, being arrested): asap, when can be done safely (do not text and drive!). Not finding a parking spot is NOT an excuse – it is bad planning.
- Student must ensure that excuse for absence has been granted, i.e. must have received email with confirmation of excuse of absence from Dr. Brunner.

Cheating/Plagiarism:
Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm for further information.

This is important for your Individual Concept Sketches – make sure that they are ‘yours’, even if you work in teams.
## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS – subject to change!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Topic:</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Aug 26-1</td>
<td>• Why are you here? – Expectations for this class, instructor, and students&lt;br&gt;• Concept sketches. – Example: A series of geological events</td>
<td>Syllabus&lt;br&gt;Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep 2-8</td>
<td>• Earth as a System, Minerals and Rocks, Diversity of Life&lt;br&gt;<strong>Monday Sept 3 – Labor Day, NO class</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 2&lt;br&gt;Chapter 3</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep 9-15</td>
<td>• Environments and Life, Sediments</td>
<td>Chapter 4&lt;br&gt;Chapter 5</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep 16-22</td>
<td>• Rock Record, Evolution, Fossil Record</td>
<td>Chapter 6&lt;br&gt;Chapter 7</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep 23-29</td>
<td>• Plate Tectonics, Continents, Mountain Chains</td>
<td>Chapter 8&lt;br&gt;Chapter 9</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep 30-Oct 6</td>
<td>• Geochemical Cycles, Hadean and Archean Eons</td>
<td>Chapter 10&lt;br&gt;Chapter 11</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oct 7-13</td>
<td>• Proterozoic Eon, Early Paleozoic</td>
<td>Chapter 12&lt;br&gt;Chapter 13</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oct 14-20</td>
<td>• Middle and Late Paleozoic</td>
<td>Chapter 14&lt;br&gt;Chapter 15</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oct 21-27</td>
<td>• Early Mesozoic, Cretaceous</td>
<td>Chapter 16&lt;br&gt;Chapter 17</td>
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<td><strong>Week 10</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oct 28-Nov 3</td>
<td>• Paleogene, Late Cenozoic&lt;br&gt;<strong>Nov 2: Course drop deadline</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 18&lt;br&gt;Chapter 19</td>
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<td><strong>Week 11</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov 4-10</td>
<td>• Holocene, Anthropocene</td>
<td>Chapter 20</td>
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<td><strong>Week 12</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov 11-17</td>
<td>• Earth’s Future</td>
<td>Research</td>
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<td><strong>Week 13</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov 18-24</td>
<td>• Retreat – Review of class&lt;br&gt;<strong>Nov 22/23: Thanksgiving – NO class</strong></td>
<td>Group Review</td>
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<td><strong>Week 14</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nov 25-Dec 1</td>
<td>• Review of class, special topics</td>
<td>Group Review</td>
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<td><strong>Week 15</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dec 2-8</td>
<td>• Exam preparation&lt;br&gt;Dec 6 Last day of classes, Dec 7 Dead day</td>
<td>Don’t Panic!</td>
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<td><strong>Week 16</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dec 9-15</td>
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<td><strong>GOOD LUCK!</strong></td>
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**EXAM**
RESULTS FOR:

ALL : Fall 2018 : GEOL : 1314 : 001

1 Required Material(s)

Required Material(s) (1)

Earth System History (w/out Online Study Card)

Author: Stanley
Edition: 4th
ISBN: 9781429255264
Copyright Year: 2015
Publisher: W. H. Freeman & Company

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Please Note: Course and pricing information is subject to change based upon updated data from publishers and instructors.

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