

Historical Geology – Syllabus for Lecture

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Benjamin Brunner
Assistant Professor, Geological Sciences

Office: 404A Geology Building
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Overview: MEETING PATTERN & LOCATION

Historical Geology Lectures:

Instructor: Benjamin Brunner; Teaching Assistant: Jacoup Roiz

Mandatory book: Earth System History, Steven M. Stanley and John A. Luczaj
Introduction to Historical Geology: *GEOL 1314 CRN 15120* (currently 55 students)
Class 10:30 am - 11:50 am Monday & Wednesday Geology Building 123

Labs associated with Historical Geology class:

Lab for GEOL 1314: *GEOL 1104 CRN 13137* (currently 16 students)
Lab Leader: Hayden Thompson
Class 8:30 am – 10:20 am Tuesday Geology Building 404

Lab for GEOL 1314: *GEOL 1104 CRN 15118* (currently 14 students)
Lab Leader: Hayden Thompson
Class 8:30 am – 10:20 am Wednesday Geology Building 404

OFFICE HOURS

Preferred: by appointment via email to Dr. Brunner (bbrunner@utep.edu)
Tuesday & Thursday 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm; Room 404A Geology Building.



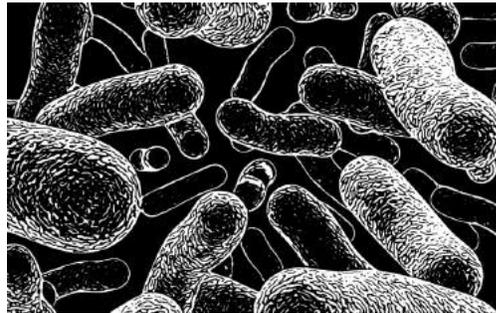
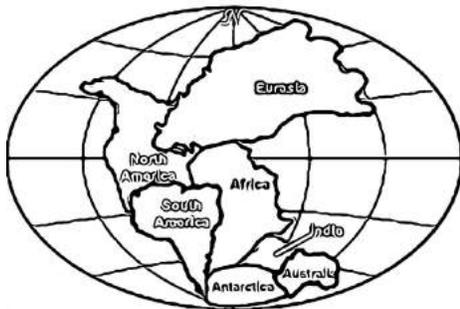
COURSE DESCRIPTION

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' 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 1, 2019:**

The College of Science aligns with UTEP's posted drop date of November 1 for the Fall 2019 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 (50%), Individual Quiz (20%), Group Quiz (10%), Final Exam (20%); More than three unexcused absences and/or late arrivals to class will result in you being dropped from class (W) or an automatic failing grade (F).



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!*

Date:	Topic:	Reading & Assignments
Week 1 Aug 25-31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are you here? – Expectations for this class, instructor, and students Concept sketches – Examples: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A traffic accident 2) A series of geological events 	Syllabus Chapter 1
Week 2 Sep 1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth as a System, Minerals and Rocks, Diversity of Life Monday Sept 2 – Labor Day, NO class 	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
Week 3 Sep 8-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environments and Life, Sediments Sept 11: This is the last day to register for classes. If payment is not received by this day, students will be dropped. 	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
Week 4 Sep 15-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rock Record, Evolution, Fossil Record 	Chapter 6 Chapter 7
Week 5 Sep 22-28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plate Tectonics, Continents, Mountain Chains Sept 23: Students who were given a payment deadline extension will be dropped at 5:00 pm if payment arrangements have not been made. 	Chapter 8 Chapter 9
Week 6 Sep 29-Oct 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geochemical Cycles, Hadean and Archean Eons 	Chapter 10 Chapter 11
Week 7 Oct 6-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proterozoic Eon, Early Paleozoic 	Chapter 12 Chapter 13
Week 8 Oct 13-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle and Late Paleozoic 	Chapter 14 Chapter 15
Week 9 Oct 20-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Mesozoic, Cretaceous 	Chapter 16 Chapter 17
Week 10 Oct 27-Nov 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paleogene, Late Cenozoic Nov 1: Course drop deadline 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. 	Chapter 18 Chapter 19
Week 11 Nov 3-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holocene, Anthropocene 	Chapter 20
Week 12 Nov 10-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth's Future 	Research
Week 13 Nov 17-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retreat – Review of class 	Group Review
Week 14 Nov 24-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nov 28/29: Thanksgiving – please negotiate with Dr. Brunner what you would like do 	Research
Week 15 Dec 1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam preparation Dec 5 Last day of classes, Dec 6 Dead day 	Don't Panic!
Week 16 Dec 8-14	<i>Dec 9-13th Final Exams: GOOD LUCK!</i>	

