

Historical Geology II – GEOL 30143

Lectures & Lab for Spring, 2008

Dr. Arthur B. Busbey III



Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 AM– 9:20 AM
Lab: Tuesday 1 to 3:20 or thereabouts
Instructor: Dr. Arthur B. Busbey III
Email: a.busbey@tcu.edu
Prerequisite: Geology 30133 or permission
Office: SWR 254
Office Hours: Officially MW 1–1:50, but feel free to find me at any time.
Contact: 257-7301 Office, 370-6006 Home, Email: a.busbey@tcu.edu, AIM/iChat: abusbey, SKYPE: a.busbey
Required text: Evolution of the Earth, 7th Ed. (2004), Dott & Prothro, McGraw Hill.

GRADING

The grade will be based on the results of two lecture exams (25% each), a comprehensive final exam (20%) & a lab grade (30%). Letter grades are assigned only at the end of the course approximately as follows: A=90–100%, B=80–89%, C=70–79%, D=60–69%, F=0–59%. The final letter grade will be based on the adjusted average of your course performance. For any particular exam the grade distribution will be posted which should provide some idea of your test results compared to the rest of the class.

Text readings supplement the material discussed in lecture; frequently lecture topics represent recent developments & may not be discussed in the text. Therefore, reading is not a substitute for attending lectures; exams are entirely based on lecture content.

EXAMS

No make-up exams will be given unless you have a signed excuse from a physician. An unexcused absence will result in a score of zero. Students caught cheating might be drawn & quartered, flayed alive or sent to an antipodal penal colony. Students with University excuses to miss labs or exams must notify me at least one week in advance of the absence. You are expected to be familiar with & abide by the University's Academic Conduct Policy outlined in the 'Undergraduate Studies Bulletin'.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

It is in your best interest to attend class. Past experience has shown that students who do not attend class do poorly on lecture exams. I will assume that you have read the assignment prior to each class & that you will be acquainted with basic terminology & concepts & the previous lectures notes.

Do not hesitate to ask questions during class or to obtain help from me outside of class. Please feel free to drop in to my office (SWR 253) if you have problems in lab or lecture.

LABORATORY EXERCISES

Lab exercises have little to do with lecture topics. It is crucial that you are punctual for lab and that you read any materials before you come to lab! There is one Saturday field trip that is absolutely mandatory.

Two lab exams (times noted on the syllabus) will be given during the semester. These exams test your knowledge of concepts learned in the lab. The average of these two exams (25% each), the grade for your labs (25%) & the paleo project (25%) will be calculated at the end of the semester & will count 30% towards your final course grade.

You should bring your class textbook to lab. You should purchase a lab notebook that will be used for making sketches and taking notes. In many instances you may want to refer to your textbook during lab exercises. A good pencil and eraser will also be h& in lab (ink is usually difficult to erase).

LAB MAKE-UP POLICY

You will be allowed to make up labs for which you have obtained an excuse from the Dean of Students or a physician, or if you are covered by a University notice.

Lab make-ups take place in lab at my discretion. You can only make up labs prior to the next lecture exam.

Day	Lecture	Chap	Lab
15-Jan	Introduction & Evolution	1, 2, 3	No Lab Week 1
17	Origin of the Solar System & Earth	6, 8	
22	Precambrian rocks & environments.	8	Fossil Plants
24	Scenarios for the Origin of Life	9	
29	The Pattern of Precambrian Life	9	Sarcodina & Porifera
31	Paleozoic Rocks & Environments	10, 11, 12, 13	
5-Feb	The Cambrian-Precambrian Boundary	9	Annelida & Cnidaria
7	Life of the Early Paleozoic	10, 11	
12	Life of the Middle Paleozoic	12	Bryozoa & Brachiopoda
14	Life of the Late Paleozoic	13	Paleozoic Field Trip - Saturday 16th
19	The Ascent of Vertebrates	13	Bryozoa & Brachiopoda
21	The Permo-Trassic Extinctions	13	
26	Exam #1		Work on fossils from Paleozoic field trip
28	Mesozoic Rocks & Environments	14	
4-Mar	Mesozoic Rocks & Environments	14	EXAM #1
6	Early Mesozoic Life.	14	
18	Middle Mesozoic Life.	14	Mollusca I - Scaphopods & Gastropods
20	Late Mesozoic Life.		
25	Dinosaurs in Fact & Fiction	14	Mollusca II
27	The Terminal Cretaceous Extinctions	14	
Apr. 1	Cenozoic Rocks & Environments	14	Arthropoda
3	Cenozoic Rocks & Environments	15, 16	
8	Early Cenozoic Life	15, 16	Echinoderms
10	Late Cenozoic Life	15, 16	
15	The Fossil Record of Humans	15, 16	Graptolites, Pterobranchs & Conodonts
17	The Terminal Pleistocene Extinctions	16	
22	Trends in the Fossil Record	16	Exam #2
24	Review and Study		
29	Exam #2		

For better or worse, the final exam will be held on Thursday, May 8th at 8am.