

91159/91160: **GEOL 252, HISTORICAL GEOLOGY with LAB** – fall 2016

Professor: Dr. **Alessandro Grippo**, Ph.D.

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Class Hours: **Tuesday and Thursday, 8:00 – 9:15, BIOS 119**

Lab Hours: **Tuesday, 9:25 – 10:40, BIOS 119**

Office Hours: **Thursday 9:25 – 11:05, BIOS 110**

Final Exam: **Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 9:10 – 11:10, BIOS 119**

Course objectives

This course will introduce the basic concepts used to interpret Earth's history. Students will learn to interpret the rock record and to place geologic events in a chronological framework, and labs will be used to gain a practical understanding of the concepts necessary to interpret the rock record.

Description

Prerequisite: GEOL 1500, 1550, or 1580. Study of Earth's history through fossils and rocks. Evolution of plants and animals, rocks, principles of geologic time, plate tectonics and mountain building, principles of stratigraphy and biostratigraphy are reviewed. Lecture 3 hours, laboratory 1 hour. Field trips are required.*C-ID GEOL 111: **The University course listed above articulates with any California Community College (CCC) course that is approved by the C-ID program and given the corresponding "C-ID Course" designation listed here. The articulation is one-way articulation, meaning the approved community college course will articulate for the indicated course credit at the four-year university. Articulation does NOT apply from the four-year institution to the community college or between the four-year institutions.*

Required Textbooks

Lecture Textbook: Wicander R., and Monroe, J.S., Historical Geology, 8th edition, Cengage Learning.

Lab: Brice Levin Smith, Laboratory Studies in Earth History, 10th edition, McGraw Hill.

Both textbooks are required. Used copies of the lecture textbook are generally fine. If you have an older edition, you will be responsible for finding the proper material on the right page on your book. When it comes to the Lab manual, be aware that its pages are detachable and that they will have to be ripped off and turned in to me at the end of each Lab session. Many students during previous semesters bought used copies of the lab manual that were missing most of the lab pages; as a consequence, they were forced to return their copy and order a new one. The process took a few weeks for some, who found themselves without an essential book for quite a long time. Since many images and pictures complement the lab manual, Xerox copies cannot be accepted and it is necessary that you buy your own, brand new, personal copy of the manual for individual lab work. After the first week of class, I will absolutely NOT accept work on Xerox copies.

Required Materials

Lecture: students should always have a notebook, pens, a mechanical pencil, an eraser, a combined metric and standard English ruler, colored pencils, a protractor, a lab notebook, millimeter paper, a geologist's hammer, a 10x hand lens, a sturdy filed notebook. If additional material will be necessary, it will be announced in class.

Exams: the only things you need to bring to class on a test day are a pencil, an eraser, and a Scan-Tron model 882-E. Absolutely no calculators, tablets, computers, electronic translators, mp3 readers, earphones or any electronic device will be allowed.

Methods of Presentation

Lecture will cover materials that students can find in the textbook in use, materials that are available through PowerPoint presentations and, when appropriate, materials that are related to the topic and appear in contemporary scientific literature. Integration between these components is maximized when students are involved in the life and activities of the class. Students are strongly encouraged to take notes.

Grading System

The final grade will be assigned based on three exams, a series of labs, two field trips, and attendance and participation. In order to be able to pass the class you will have to take ALL exams and work on ALL labs.

Exams - You will be tested on the materials covered during lectures, labs, in assigned readings (and videos when pertinent). The exams will include a mix of multiple choice, short essay, true-false, figure and map interpretation, yes/no, and short-answer questions. The exams will include question from BOTH lecture & lab. There will be three (3) exams which, combined together, will constitute **50% of the grade**. If you miss any single exam, its maximum score will be subtracted from your grade, and you will likely get an F as class grade. Exams are closed-books; no texts, notes, calculators or dictionaries of any sort will be allowed; absolutely no cell phones, iPods, iPads, blackberries, headphones, Bluetooth or any other kind of electronic device are allowed during a test; if you have a cell phone and it happens to ring during a test, you would not be allowed to finish the test. You can not wear a hood or a hat covering your ears in class. During the test it will only be you, your pencil, your eraser and a Scan-Tron.

On the day of the exam, always remember to bring a Scan-Tron Form no. 882-E, a no. 2 pencil and an eraser. Instructor or the Department can NOT provide a Scan-Tron for you. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a Scan-Tron. On the Scan-Tron, it is your personal responsibility to erase completely your mark if you want to change an answer. I will NOT change a grade because the machine could not read a double mark or a badly erased one. Be sure of your answer before you mark your Scan-Tron. No exceptions.

Labs - As a rule, there will be a lab every Tuesday, with possible exceptions that will be detailed in class; occasionally, we will be working on more than one lab. Labs will count for **30% of the grade**. Lab work is strictly individual and not group work. If a student is found copying a lab rather than working personally on it, she/he will get a 0 (zero) on that lab. Please note: it is important that you work on all of your labs: if you miss a lab and you do not make it up, the relative score will be subtracted from your grade. You can make up a lab for full score only if you have a doctor's note, a jury duty note, a police note or any other official document that can justify your absence. If you cannot provide any evidence, you can still make up the lab for practice and to prevent points from being subtracted. Individual labs will be graded on a 0-20 scale.

Homework / Home Assignments – As a general rule, there will be no homework; exceptions could be made in order to strengthen certain skills or reinforce a few concepts. The relative score will be integrated in the quizzes score. In that case, homework must be typewritten and should be turned in at due time, no exceptions. Late homework will be accepted only as a partial fulfillment of class requirements but WILL NOT be counted towards the final grade. E-mailed assignments will NOT be accepted. Again, if you miss any assignment, its score will be subtracted from your grade.

Attendance and Participation - Attendance is mandatory, and constitutes **10% of the grade**. A&P does not mean only attending class regularly and on time but rather constitutes a general assessment of your effort and participation in the classroom. Every student starts with a pool of 100 points from A&P and absences would imply points will be subtracted from this pool. So, unexcused absences and late arrivals (when allowed) will result in grade reduction! The same goes if you leave class before the scheduled time: you will only be counted present for a fraction of time and points will be subtracted from the A&P pool. Eating and drinking are not allowed, and cellular phones, or any other kind of electronic device must be turned OFF during class. If you are seen texting, instant messaging, or performing ANY other activity on an electronic device, it means you are not participating to the class and possibly disturbing your fellow students and disrupting the class. In that case, points will be taken off from your A&P pool. You cannot tape or record any segment of a class, lab, or video, nor take pictures or videos at any time. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. See below "Tips on how to succeed in this class"

Field Trips – There will be two field trips. Field trips are mandatory and field activity will count for **10% of the grade**. Time spent on field trips will be deducted from our lab time.

Method of Evaluation - The final score is out of 1000 pts. (from assignments, exams, labs, A&P)

Two exams will count for 50% of the final grade	500 points
Lab assignments will count for 30% of the final grade	400 points
Two field trips will count for 10% of the grade	100 points
A&P is worth 10% of the final grade	<u>100 points</u>
	1000 points

Grading scale:

FINAL GRADE:	A: 910 - 1000 points	SINGLE EXAMS:	A: 91 - 100 points
	B: 800 - 909 points		B: 80 - 90 points
	C: 690 - 799 points		C: 69 - 79 points
	D: 580 - 689 points		D: 58 - 68 points
	F: 579 points or less		F: 57 or less

Make up exams, quizzes and homework

As a policy, there will not be make-up exams or labs unless there is a medical or legal reason; in all cases, a note from a doctor, a hospital, a court, or the police is required. The same goes if you know that you will be missing a class for a religious holiday: it is YOUR responsibility to let me know as soon as possible. Please, do not abuse these possibilities. In case you need to take a make-up test, the test will be in a different format, and will consist in a series of short essay questions.

Tips on how to succeed in this class

1. The first and most important point is: if you do not understand something, ask questions, ask me to repeat. You are here to learn and the professor is there to help you in this process.
2. If you want to socialize, sleep, read books, surf the net: **do it outside**. Time spent in class is used to learn about the subject. If you disrupt the class by talking, sleeping, text-messaging, arriving late or leaving early, you would be disturbing your fellow students and the linearity of the class, and that is unacceptable behavior.
3. Do not use class time to study or prepare for other classes. You will get points off after the first warning. Also, class time should be spent taking notes from the current lecture and NOT copying notes taken by a fellow student during my previous lecture. Use the bookstore's low-cost service to make copies of notes.
4. Give yourself adequate study time per week for each one unit of a course. Review notes as soon as possible after lecture in order to finish incomplete diagrams and sentences while you still remember what they mean.
5. If you are having difficulties with the course, ask me for help or advice early in the semester. Do not coast through most of the course and then, with a week or two remaining in the term, ask me what you can do to improve your grade. I strongly urge you to seek help if your first exam grade indicates you are doing poorly.
6. An ethical note: looking at a fellow student's paper during an exam is cheating; using crib notes is cheating. Consequences of cheating will be an automatic "F" and a report filed with the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.
7. No eating or reading during class. No listening to headsets or web surfing of any sort. Stay alert.
8. Be sure your cell phone or pager alert tone or any electronic device is OFF during class.
9. Do not be late to class. Arriving after class has started is disturbing both to me and to other students.
10. Coming to class is essential for passing it. Historically, those who cut class, fail the class.

Academic integrity and policies

The academic honesty policy of California State University Los Angeles will be strictly enforced.

"Academic Integrity is of central importance in the university community and involves committed allegiance to the values, principles, and code of behavior held to be central in that community. Integrity concerns honesty and implies being truthful, fair and free from lies, fraud, and deceit.

The core of a university's integrity is its scholastic honesty. Honesty is valued across all cultures and is a fundamental value in the academic culture. There are, however, cultural differences with regard to the ownership of ideas and the importance of individual efforts. Nonetheless, the university expects all students and other campus members to document the intellectual contributions of others and to ensure that the work they submit is their own.

Education provides students with the resources to master content, learn skills, and develop processes to maximize self potential and the potential of others. Students must demonstrate mastery of each step of learning by tangible products, such as test performances, papers and presentations. The process enables students and the instructor to assess the student's readiness for the next steps and gives the student the confidence to undertake future steps. Students who cheat may not have mastered the necessary steps nor gained the necessary knowledge; they miss the opportunity to gain an accurate picture of what they know and what they do not know."

Students with disabilities

I encourage students requesting disability-related accommodations to contact Disabled Student Services (DSS) as soon as possible. I will work with you and the Center for Students with Disabilities to provide appropriate and reasonable accommodations. An early notification of your request for test-taking and/or other accommodations is necessary to ensure that your disability related needs are addressed appropriately; testing accommodations cannot be applied retroactively.

Adapted Physical Education: Adapted Physical Education classes are offered for students with disabilities. These courses feature individualized exercise programs and instructional aids for those who require physical assistance.

Admission Assistance: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the office before applying for admission to obtain general information, assistance with reading and/or filling out forms, and to discuss special needs.

Auxiliary Services – Readers, Notetakers, Interpreters: Full services are available at no cost to the student. Students and staff work cooperatively in the selection and supervision of aides. Support from the staff is available for those students requiring assistance in developing their supervisory skills.

Course Accommodations: Staff consultation with faculty on appropriate changes in course assignments is available. Students are encouraged to plan for courses that require significant changes at least one semester in advance.

Department of Rehabilitation: The office will assist students who have permanent disabilities in applying for services from the State Department of Rehabilitation. Those who are found eligible for services may receive vocational counseling and guidance, training (with payment of costs books, fees, tuition, etc.) for and job placement. Under certain circumstances students may also qualify for help with medical needs and transportation.

Diagnostic Assessment Services and Support: Diagnostic assessment of specific learning disabilities and the provision of the appropriate support services are available to qualified students. Support services may include use of adaptive equipment, course modifications, use of auxiliary services (including tutoring) and disability management advising.

Disability Management Advising: Advising is available to the student who wishes to explore increasing independence, improving communication with faculty about the disability and evaluating career choices against functional limitations. In addition to individual consultation, the office maintains an assistive device resource file and provides workshops on time management, supervision and management skills and other topics.

Equipment: The following equipment is available for student use: tape recorders, Visualtek Closed Circuit TV, Optacon, talking calculator, Perkins Braille, electric carts, wheelchairs, and adapted computers.

Housing: On-campus student apartments have 18 wheelchair accessible units, which have lowered kitchen counters, roll-in showers and other features.

Information and Referral: The office provides general information and assistance in problem solving. Students routinely encounter difficulties not necessarily related to disability, and the office maintains close relationships with offices on and off campus that can provide special services, including personal and career counseling, job seeking skills training, financial aid and more.

Registration Assistance/Priority Registration: Students with disabilities participate in the usual registration process unless their disability precludes prolonged standing or walking, or in cases where students use auxiliary services. In these instances, students may obtain "Priority Registration" through this office.

In summary, the Disabled Student Services Office is committed to the student with a disability and to the student's right to an equal educational experience. The major focus is on the individual needs of the student. The goal is for the student with a disability to utilize the services provided to maximize independence and full integration into university life.

Biographical Sketch of Alessandro Grippo, Ph. D.

Dr. Grippo has been teaching since 2001. He has previously taught general education courses in Physical Geology, Oceanography, Environmental Geology, Earth History/Historical Geology and Field Geology; senior level and graduate classes in Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, and Field Geology; and an advanced, 500-level

seminar in Stratigraphy, all at different colleges in the greater Los Angeles area. He has presented his work at international meetings in the US, UK, Italy, France and Canada. His research interests as a scientist include stratigraphy and sedimentology, oceanography, geomorphology, regional geology and global and climate change. In particular he is doing research on how to extract and process information about environmental change and ancient climates from the sedimentary rock record. Between his M.S and his Ph. D. he has been working in the oil industry as exploration and well-site geologist. In 2011 he worked as a Faculty Fellow at NASA-JPL. In 2016 he obtained a USC C-DEBi mini grant to work with students in the ocean sciences.

Important Reminder

You can easily drop this class at the beginning of the semester. After a certain date, you will need my approval. As a rule, I will NOT give any approval, unless there are proven extenuating and exceptional circumstances, such as an accident, or hospitalization or anything that would physically impede the presence in class of the student. Documentation proving these extenuating and exceptional circumstances must be presented. Be aware that there will be no exceptions.

Tentative schedule of lessons (if necessary, variations will be detailed in class)

Week	(week of)	Topic	Book Chapters	Exams/Quizzes
1	August 23	Intro, Minerals and Rocks review	1, 2, 3	
	August 25	Plate Tectonics	3	
2	August 30	Sedimentary Rocks, Lab	6	
	September 1	Sedimentary Rocks	6	
3	September 6	Geologic Time, Lab	4	
	September 8	Geologic Time	4	
4	September 13	Rocks, Fossils, and Time, Lab	5	
	September 15	Rocks, Fossils, and Time	5	
5	September 20	Exam #1		EXAM 2
	September 22	Lab		
6	September 27	<i>Geological Society of America meeting, no class</i>		
	September 29	<i>Geological Society of America meeting, no class</i>		
7	October 4	Evolution, Lab	7	
	October 6	Evolution	7	
8	October 11	Precambrian: Hadean and Archean, Lab	8	
	October 13	Precambrian: Hadean and Archean	8	
9	October 18	Precambrian: Proterozoic, Lab	9	
	October 20	Precambrian: Proterozoic	9	
	October 21	Field trip # 1 (all day)		
10	October 25	Paleozoic Life: Invertebrates, Lab	12	
	October 27	Paleozoic Life: Invertebrates	12	
11	November 1	Exam #2		EXAM 2
	November 3	Lab		
12	November 8	Paleozoic Life: Vertebrates and Plants	13	
	November 10	Paleozoic Life: Vertebrates and Plants	13	
13	November 15	Paleozoic Earth History, Lab	10, 11	
	November 17	Paleozoic Earth History	10, 11	
	November 18	Field Trip # 2 (all day)		
14	November 22	Mesozoic Earth History, Lab	14	
	November 24	<i>Thanksgiving: no class</i>		
15	November 29	Life of the Mesozoic Era, Lab	15	
	December 1	Cenozoic	16, 17, 18	
16	December 6	Exam #3		EXAM 3