

GEOLOGY 422K (#27480-27495) – PALEOBIOLOGY (W & Flag)

INSTRUCTOR - Dr. James Sprinkle - e-mail echino@mail.utexas.edu

Office - JGB 4.106; mailbox in EPS 1.130A; office phone 471-4264

Office Hours - Tu 11:30AM-12:30PM, F 12-1PM, MW 1-2 PM; other times by appoint.

TAs –Ashley Latimer (latimer.ae@gmail.com)

Office in JGB 3.310A; Office hours in Paleo. Lab, JGB 3.202; hours to be selected.

PREREQUISITES - Grades of C or better in GEO 404C or 405, in GEO 416M, and in 3-4 hours of introductory biology courses (preferably BIO 301M, or BIO 212 + 213); requirement for GEO 416M usually waived for non-Geology majors.

COURSE TOPICS and OBJECTIVES - See Course Schedule, Goals & Objectives, & Lecture Outlines at GEO 422K Blackboard website <<https://courses.utexas.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>>

TEXTBOOKS - Lecture - Prothero, 2003, Bringing Fossils to Life (2nd ed., PB): McGraw-Hill.

Lab - Walton & Sprinkle, 1984, 2002, Lab Manual for Paleobiology (PB): Jenn's Copy & Binding (on the Drag)

COURSE READING - Other reading assignments are at the Geology Library (JGB 4.202) Front Desk (books on reserve) or in the Open Files in the back corner of the Reading Room (separates).

FIELD TRIPS - 1. Austin area Cretaceous field trip, Sat., Sept. 24th, all day (no game)
2. Brownwood area Pennsylvanian field trip, Sat., Oct. 22nd, all day (no game)
Students must have health insurance to go on Geology Dept. field trips.

COURSE GRADES AND EXAMS - Grades will be determined in the following manner:

<u>Lecture</u> - Midterm Exam – Tues. Oct. 11th	22% \ = 50%
- Final Exam – Fri., Dec. 9 th , 2-5 PM	28% /

<u>Lab</u> - Midterm Exam – 3 rd week of Oct.	9% \
- Lab Final - week of Nov. 28 th	9% \
- 2 Field Trip Reports & Faunal Lists	10+10% } = 50%
- Laboratory Assignments & Quizzes	5% /
- Abstract project & Student grading	4 + 3% /

Lecture exams and the final may include any of the following types of questions: multiple choice, matching, complete-the-answer, definitions, problems, drawings or charts, short- to intermediate-length essays, and text-editing. Exams are closed-book, are medium in difficulty, and typically are graded by comparing your answer to a written-out key and assigning points accordingly. Lecture exams will be cumulative, covering all previous work up to the time of that exam. A make-up exam for a missed lecture exam may be given at the instructor's discretion up to the time of the next lecture period when the corrected exams are usually returned. Marks will be carried through as numbers, added up at the end of the course, and then curved to get a final letter grade. Last fall's average mark was a 73.5 (top mark 85.8, lowest mark 59.6), and there were 5 A's, 8 B's, 12 C's, & 2 Q's out of a class of 27, for a 2.72 overall class GPA.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY - Although students are encouraged to work together in the field and lab, all written work turned in for a grade (exams, reports, lists) must be your own work; this is especially important for a Writing Component Course. There are severe penalties for cheating (on exams), plagiarism (using someone else's ideas or written work without citation credit in a report), or collusion (turning in another student's work as your own in a faunal list or report). See the UT Honor Code at <<http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/gi09-10/ch01/index.html>>

ACADEMIC POLICIES - No special policy on drops, incompletes, or time extensions; see General Information Catalog, Part V. The last day to drop the course without possible academic penalty is Sept. 21, 2011; the last day to drop the course for academic reasons is Oct. 19, 2011.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS – By UT Austin policy, a student must notify the instructor of a pending absence from class at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a lab assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missing work within a reasonable time after the absence.