

Geomorphology and Surface Processes Seminar, Fall 2013
GEO 291/271C (27945, 27735)

Syllabus

Class meets Tuesday and Thursday 2-3 pm, EPS 1.102

Instructor: Joel Johnson, joelj@jsg.utexas.edu, EPS 3.136

Office hours: By appointment or feel free to stop by and see if I'm available.

Overview: Class time will be spent learning through group discussions of research papers. Two papers will be read per week, generally one longer and one shorter. To make the course as relevant to the participants as possible, students will have the opportunity to take turns picking papers for the group to read, under the condition that the instructor can veto papers deemed not sufficiently relevant to the interests of the class. The class will cover topics within geomorphology and sedimentology.

The goal of the class is to develop a deeper understanding of the research topics discussed, and to stay up to date on new research in surface processes.

Grading Policy: Assigned grades will be based 25% on attendance, 50% on leading and participating in group discussions, and 25% each on the final presentation described below. Plus/minus grades will not be assigned. Class participation means reading the papers beforehand, and speaking up and contributing during group discussions. Two unexcused absence will be allowed; more than two will affect one's letter grade. Excused absences (generally only for school-related reasons) require prior approval.

Final exam: none

Final presentation: December 3 and 5 (two days of presentations).

Give a 12 minute AGU-length talk on a research topic of interest. This can be your own research, or exploring and explaining published work on a new topic.

Class website: Blackboard. PDFs of papers to be read will be available through blackboard, and you will also be able to download PDFs through the UT libraries.

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.