

# GEOL 102 – Historical Geology: Earth - Life Through Time, Section 001, Spring 2019

**M-W 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM, BEH 242**

**Faculty:** Dr. Jeremy Koonce  
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**Office Hours:** Tues. 2:30-3:30 pm, Thurs. 1:30-2:30 pm, and by appointment

**Course Format:** Lecture twice a week  
Weekly laboratory

**Recommended Textbook:** Evolution of the Earth by Prothero and Dott, 8th edition

**Prerequisites:** Geology 101 or equivalent

**Purpose of this Class:** This class is designed as an introduction to the major evolutionary and geologic events on planet Earth. You will become reacquainted with basic geologic principles and familiar with the geologic time scale. We will then survey the interrelationships of life and geology through time.

**Learning Outcomes:** After successfully completing this course, students will be able to: 1) be comfortable with the geologic time scale and geologic time; 2) understand the relationship between life and the Earth through time; 3) understand the principles of geologic maps and plate tectonics; and 4) explain the formation and history of the Earth and the hypotheses which have led to our current understanding of Earth processes.

**Grading policy:** Final grades will be assigned according to the following schedule. The instructor may also elect to curve the **final** grades in the students favor.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Semester average</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Semester average</u>
A	over 93	C	between 73 and 77
A-	between 90 and 93	C-	between 70 and 73
B+	between 87 and 90	D+	between 67 and 70
B	between 83 and 87	D	between 63 and 67
B-	between 80 and 83	D-	between 60 and 63
C+	between 77 and 80	F	less than 60 ( <b>see note 1 below</b> )

**Final Grades will be computed as follows:**

Three lecture exams (15% each)	45%
Comprehensive final exam	20%
Lecture quizzes/assignments	10%
Laboratory	25%
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	100%

**Notes on grading:**

1. You **MUST** pass both the lecture and the laboratory in order to pass the course. A grade of F in lab or a grade of less than 60% in lecture will earn an F for the entire course regardless of the numerical average of the two scores.
2. No extra credit will be given.
3. No make-up exams, make-up quizzes, or make-up exercises will be given except as specified in the University Catalog for religious holidays and university-sponsored extracurricular activities.
4. The final exam is required of all students.

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Date	Lecture Topic	Lab Topic
Week 1		No Lab
Jan. 21	<b>No Class: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Recess</b>	
Jan. 23	Introduction, Syllabus, and Scientific Method	
Week 2		Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks
Jan. 28	Geologic Time	
Jan. 30	Floods, Fossils, and Heresies	
Week 3		Sedimentary Rocks and Structures
Feb. 4	Evolution	<b>Geologic Time Scale Quiz</b>
Feb. 6	Relative Geologic Time and Stratigraphy	
Week 4		Plate Tectonics
Feb. 11	Numerical Dating of the Earth	
Feb. 13	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Week 5		No Lab
Feb. 18	<b>No Class: Washington's Birthday Recess</b>	
Feb. 20	Origin and Early Evolution of the Earth	
Week 6		Geologic Time and Stratigraphy
Feb. 25	Plate Tectonics and the Archean	
Feb. 27	Precambrian Geology	
Week 7		Geologic Mapping and Structures
Mar. 4	Precambrian Life	
Mar. 6	Early Paleozoic Geology	
Week 8		Frenchman Mountain
Mar. 11	Early Paleozoic Life	
Mar. 13	<b>Exam 2</b>	
<b>Spring Break March 18-24</b>		
Week 9		Paleozoic Fossils
Mar. 25	Later Ordovician	
Mar. 27	Middle Paleozoic Geology	
Week 10		Mollusks and Brachiopods
Apr. 1	Middle Paleozoic Life	
Apr. 3	Late Paleozoic Geology	
Week 11		Paleoclimatology
Apr. 8	Late Paleozoic Life	
Apr. 10	Triassic-Jurassic Geology	
Week 12		Extinction
Apr. 15	Triassic-Jurassic Life	
Apr. 17	<b>Exam 3</b>	
Week 13		No Lab
Apr. 22	Cretaceous Geology	
Apr. 24	Cretaceous Life and Nevada Dinosaurs	
Week 14		Group Projects
Apr. 29	Cenozoic Geology	
May 1	Cenozoic Life	
Week 15		Group Projects
May 6	Pleistocene to Recent	
May 8	Review	
Week 16	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 3:10 pm – 5:10 pm</b>

**Changes to Syllabus:** The above lecture schedule is tentative; adjustments to the schedule of topics and reading assignments may be made in accordance with the rate of progress in the classroom. The instructor also reserves the right to change a lecture topic to reflect world events. Students will be provided with an updated syllabus if significant changes are necessary.

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## UNLV Academic Policies

Students taking this course are required to be familiar with the UNLV academic policies at the URL shown below.

Please see this link for select, useful information for students:

[https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page\\_files/27/SyllabiContent-MinimumCriteria-2018-2019.pdf](https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/SyllabiContent-MinimumCriteria-2018-2019.pdf)

## GEOL 102 Policies

- 1. Participation** - If you are confused about any of the material presented, please ask questions in class for clarification and further explanation. You will not be alone in your confusion. There are many ways to present this material, and I will attempt to find one that works for you. If you do not feel comfortable asking questions in class, please contact your lab instructor or myself.
- 2. Attendance** - It is important that you attend class daily because we cover a lot of material, and I will regularly provide guidance regarding reading assignments and exams. You are responsible for all material covered in lecture no matter what causes your absence. If you miss a lecture, get the notes from a classmate. Topics covered may vary from the schedule somewhat, but the exam dates will remain fixed.
- 3. Missed work** - Exams, quizzes, assignments, and labs missed due to absence will receive a grade of zero unless you provide notification of an exception for a religious holiday or university-sponsored extracurricular activity as specified in the University Catalog. In the case of an excused absence, the nature and format of the make-up exam will be at the instructors' discretion.
- 4. Laboratory** - You must be enrolled in a laboratory section of GEOL 102 for zero credit hours. The lab will count for 25% of your final grade, but if you fail the lab, then you will fail the entire course. Also, if you miss three lab sessions or fail to turn in three lab assignments or some combination of the two you will fail the lab. Required field trips may be held during your lab meeting. If you are enrolled in a night lab, the field trips will be held on Saturdays or Sundays. Talk to your lab instructor about these and plan accordingly.
- 5. First week schedule** - Unless stated otherwise on the course syllabus, the GEOL 102 laboratory meets the first week of each semester.
- 6. Administrative Drops/Classroom Conduct** - You are required to be familiar with university policies and procedures in the current UNLV Undergraduate Catalog. Importantly, we follow the policies on Administrative Drops/Classroom Conduct as stated in the most recent UNLV Undergraduate Catalog. Any student that does not comply with these requirements, and conducts themselves in a manner that is disruptive and interferes with the right of other students to learn, or of the instructor to teach will be administratively dropped from the course.
- 7. Non-enrolled guests** - Students are not allowed to bring guests, including children to either lecture or laboratory.
- 8. Academic Misconduct** - This course operates under a "zero tolerance" policy. Any student who commits cheating or plagiarism will receive a grade of F for the class.