



GEOL 1420 Historical Geology Lab

Lab Instructor: Heather Swienton

Office: ELA 386

Office hours: T 2:30 – 4:30 pm, R 1:30 – 2:30 pm, or by appointment

Phone Number: (512) 245-8642

Email: has41@txstate.edu

Labs are held in ELA 156. You must attend the lab section that you are enrolled in:
L01 (M 12:30 – 2:20 pm), L02 (W 12:30 – 2:20 pm), and L03 (T 12:30 – 2:20 pm).

REQUIRED MATERIALS: *Historical Geology: Interpretations and Applications*, authored by Jon M. Poort and Roseann J. Carlson, 6th edition, Prentice Hall, Inc. ISBN-13 9780131447868 sold in the University Bookstore. **Note:** If a used lab manual is purchased, it is the student's responsibility to copy the pages missing from the book.

POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

- **Required reading:** Please read all assigned reading in the lab manual and/or text book (see attached schedule) that pertain to that week's lab *prior* to attending your lab meeting. Students are expected to be familiar with lab subjects each week.
- **Writing materials:** A pencil must be brought to every lab and used on all lab assignments. It is the discretion of the lab instructor to not accept labs completed in pen.
- **Attendance policy:** Students are expected to attend all labs, *on time*, with all required materials. No points will be awarded for missed labs. Three tardies will count as one absence. Students who leave lab early, i.e. before class is dismissed, will be counted absent. Labs should be turned in by the start of class.
- **Makeup labs:** Students will only be given the opportunity for a makeup lab in the case of an excused absence (e.g., death in family, school related activity, hospitalization, etc.) and at the discretion of the lab instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the lab instructor *prior* to the scheduled lab time. Students are expected to make up labs within **1 week** of the missed lab. Students with extenuating circumstances (e.g., severe illness) will be given appropriate time to make up labs.
- **Grading policy:** The lab is worth 35% of your GEOL 1420 grade (4 credits). If you fail the lab component of the course, you will automatically fail the entire class.

The lab grade is based on the average of 13 labs that will be completed in the semester. The participation grade will be based on attendance, labs completed, and ability to work with others. Missed labs count as a zero.

The average lab percentage will be converted to a letter grade based on the following scale:

A....89.5-100% B....79.5-89.5% C....69.5-79.5% D....59.5-69.5% F....<59.5%

CLASS CONDUCT: Students who are repeatedly disruptive in lab (e.g., excessive talking, interrupting the lecture, sleeping, leaving class prematurely, use of cell phone) may be removed from the class at the discretion of the lab instructor and/or lab coordinator. **Cell phones may not be used during lab time.** Violation of Texas State's Honor Code, which includes but is not limited to cheating on academic work, plagiarism, collusion and abusing the use of resource materials, is not acceptable behavior and subsequent consequences are at the discretion of the lab instructor and/or lab coordinator.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES: As a graduate student, I am aware of the stress that college classes and student life may bring. My door is always open to all students seeking resources (this includes any student who is in need of help) including but not limited to the counseling center, student health center, academic help resources, etc.

Crisis Hotline: 877.466.0660

Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800.273.8255

Campus Safety Escort (nighttime): 512.245.SAFE

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students that request special considerations (e.g., learning disabilities, etc.) need to arrange a conference with the lab coordinator within the first 2 weeks of the semester and will need to provide documentation from the office of disability services.

HISTORICAL GEOLOGY LAB SCHEDULE

The following schedule is a guideline to what we will be covering during the semester, and is subject to change if additional time is needed for particular topics. Updated schedules will be posted on the TRACS course website.

Schedule	Points	Topics	Reading Assignments		
			Textbook Chapter	Old Lab Manual	New Lab Manual
Week 1	Jan. 21	--	No labs meet during this week.		
Week 2	Jan. 28	25	Lab 1. Minerals vs. Rocks Lab	2	See course handouts
Week 3	Feb. 4	25	Lab 2. Sedimentology & Depositional Environments	3	p. 1-35 p. 1-35
Week 4	Feb. 11	25	Lab 3. Geologic Time & Evolution	Textbook required for lab today.	
Week 5	Feb. 18	25	Lab 4. Stratigraphy	1, 3, & 5	p. 93-102 p. 93-102
Week 6	Feb. 25	25	Lab 5. Fundamental Concepts in Relative Dating Techniques	5	p. 53-69 p. 53-69
Week 7	Mar. 4	25	Lab 6. Origin of Life in Australia	8 & 9	p. 177-186 & 142-151 & 156-191-203 168
Week 8	Mar. 11	25	Lab 7. Fossil Identification	4 & 9	p. 177-186 & 142-151 & 156-191-233 198
Week 9	Mar. 18	--	Spring Break		
Week 10	Mar. 25	25	Lab 8.TBD	TBD	
Week 11	Apr. 1	25	Lab 9. Cratonic Sequences	Textbook required for lab today (Chapters 10-16); and Supplemental Reading (Wicander & Monroe Chapter 10 on TRACS)	
Week 12	Apr. 8	25	Lab 10 Paleozoic vs. Mesozoic Fossil Identification	11, 12, & 13	p. 177-186 & 142-151 & 156-191-233 198
Week 13	Apr. 15	25	Lab 11. Arctic Dinosaurs	13	-- --
Week 14	Apr. 22	25	Lab 12. Historical Geology Research Meet in Alkek Library	Textbook required for lab today.	
Week 15	Apr. 29	25	Lab 13. Mesozoic-Cenozoic Fossil Identification	14 & 15	p. 191-233 156-198
Week 16	May 6th	--	No Labs meet during this week.		
Week 17	May 13th	--	No Labs meet during this week.		