

Instructor: Penni Major **Instructor Contact Information:** 713-718-5744 E- Mail penni.major@hccs.edu

Office location: No office at the this Campus-see me before or after class or *any time by email or phone*

Course Semester Credit Hours: 4 = Lecture Hours: 3, Laboratory Hours: 3, **Total Contact hours:** 96

Course Description: Geology 1404 is the study of the history of the earth, its life forms and geologic time

Laboratory includes the study of sedimentary rocks, fossils and geologic maps

Course Prerequisites: Geology 1403

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): Students will be able to:

- * Explain the scientific method and how it relates to the earth
- * Explain the various ages of in geologic time
- * Identify evidence from the rock layer and how it is used to interpret earth history
- * Explain the theory of plate tectonics

Core Curriculum Objectives:

This course is in the Life & Physical Science Core Curriculum “functional component area” and meets the objectives of:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Textbook: (not required for summer) Earth through Time by Harold Levin, 11e ISBN: 978-1-119-11706-3

Attendance: Mandatory

You are expected to attend all lecture classes and labs regularly. You are also responsible for materials covered during your absences. Attendance is recorded for each class- late entries are disruptive (**EACH** late=minus 2 point). **Makeup assignments are due at the beginning of class** when you return from your absence, therefore, you **must email me to receive the assignment**. No late assignments will be accepted unless I have given prior approval. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences. *You may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of 12.5 percent of the total hours of instruction* (lecture and lab). For this 4 credit-hour lecture class meeting 6 hours per week, you can be dropped after 12 hours of absence.

Religious Holidays: If you observe a religious holiday and miss class, please notify your instructor in advance to arrange to take a test or make up an assignment. A religious holiday is “a holy day observed by a specific religion and the place of worship is exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code.”

My Withdrawal Policy: YOU WILL BE DROPPED AFTER MISSING 12 HOURS (4 CLASS PERIODS) IF YOU HAVE NOT CONTACTED ME WITH A VALID REASON

Lab attendance is mandatory. Lab exercises and assignments are designed to complement the lecture and give you hands-on experience with the concepts covered in lecture. Thinking through and understanding lab assignments is a big step toward learning the material. Collaborative group work is emphasized. You can learn from your classmates and them from you

**ALL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN IN THE MIDDLE OR END OF CLASS ARE CONSIDERED LATE AND POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED. If you are late to class then your assignment is also late.
(You are considered late 10 minutes after the designated printed class time)**

Classroom Behavior: DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED and could result in a grade F. Trash must be cleaned up at the end of class and chairs left in an orderly fashion. This is considered a part of your class participation grade, and points will be deducted for leaving a mess.

Makeup Tests: Students will be allowed to make up a TEST ONLY if the student has contacted me prior to the test day for approval, and or there is an extreme emergency. **No student will be allowed to make up more than one (1) test per semester** (no exceptions) Make-up tests consists of a comprehensive 2-part test, immediately after your absence

Lab Policy: Attendance is **mandatory** – There will be no make-up Lab work or make up lab tests. No late lab work will be accepted

Tests/Exams: The chapter tests will consist of a combination of Diagrams to label and interpret, matching, true/false, fill in the blank, word analysis, short answer, and one or two discussion questions. (NO MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS)

DO NOT LEAVE THE ROOM DURING A TEST. DO NOT USE A CELL PHONE DURING A TEST. Failure to take any test will result in a ZERO for that test score. If you do not take the final exam you will receive a grade of F for the course. Cheating on any test or the final exam will result in failure of the course (Semester Grade F) and referral to the Dean for further disciplinary action.

EXTRA CREDIT: DO NOT rely on EXTRA CREDIT to significantly improve your semester grade. It can help if you are on the borderline between two grades, however, it will not make a D average into a C average, a C average into a B average, or a B average into an A average. Make sure you attend class, turn in homework, and study for tests so that you can earn the grade you want

NO makeup work will be accepted starting with week 4 of the summer session. Uncompleted assignments will receive a grade of **zero**

Student Assignments:

Assignments have been developed that will enhance your learning. To better understand a topic, you will be given assignments on key information that you will need to complete for your success in class

Your grade IS determined by	Details	% of final grade
Class work, homework Attendance and class participation	All assignments will be added to determine an classwork average along with an attendance grade (determined by the number of days you attend class and completion of participation assignments)	25%
Tests/ Special Project	Students will be assigned a special project that will be added to tests grades to determine a test grade average	25%
Lab Work	All lab assignments will be averaged	25%
Final Exam	A final exam will consist of 2 parts. – Fossil Identification and a written portion that will be averaged together for you exam grade	25%

HCC Grading Scale:

A = 100- 90:	4 points per semester hour	FX (Failure due to non-attendance)	0 points
B = 89 - 80:	3 points per semester hour	IP (In Progress)	0 points
C = 79 - 70:	2 points per semester hour	W (Withdrawn)	0 points
D = 69 - 60:	1 point per semester hour	I (incomplete)	0 points
59 and below = F	0 points per semester hour	AUD (audit)	0 points

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses

FINAL GRADE OF FX: Students who stop attending class and do not withdraw themselves prior to the withdrawal deadline may either be dropped by their professor for excessive absences or be assigned the final grade of "FX" at the end of the semester. Students who stop attending classes will receive a grade of "FX", compared to an earned grade of "F" which is due to poor performance. Logging into a DE course without active participation is seen as non-attending. Please note that HCC will not disperse financial aid funding for students who have never attended class.

Students who receive financial aid but fail to attend class will be reported to the Department of Education and may have to pay back their aid. A grade of "FX" is treated exactly the same as a grade of "F" in terms of GPA, probation, suspension, and satisfactory academic progress.

To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

ALL CELL PHONE, COMPUTERS, AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Cameras) MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN POINT REDUCTIONS ON DAILY ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADES.

Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should provide the proper documentation

***** This Syllabus is subject to Change*****

Week # and Topic	Classwork/homework	Lab Assignments
1. Introduction, Class expectations. Chapter 1- Intro to Historical Geology Chapter 2 History's Mysteries Chapter 3 Time and Geology Chapter 7 Plate Tectonics Chapter 4- Review of Rocks and Minerals FRIDAY - TEST 1	Chapter 1 questions Important Geologist Mineral Review Questions	Index Fossils Plate Tectonics Stratigraphy / Correlations
2. Sedimentary Rocks – Chapter 5 Fossil Preservation- Chapter 2 Hadean & Archean time periods - Chapter 6 FRIDAY- Test 2 Sed. Rocks ID & Index Fossils	Rounding and sorting Trace Fossils Review Questions- Hadean And Archean Eras	Study of Sedimentary Rocks Group Fossil Project Fossil preservation
3. Proterozoic Time period- Chapter 9 Paleozoic Time – early paleo. events - Chapter 10 Paleozoic Time – late paleo. events – Chapter 11 Paleozoic Life- Chapter 12 TBA- TEST 3 Hadean, Archean, Proterozoic & Paleozoic Eras	Review Questions - Proterozoic Era Review Question- Paleozoic	Fossils of Early and Late Paleozoic era
4. Mesozoic Life – Chapter 14 Mesozoic Events and Extinction- Chapter 13 Cenozoic Events- Chapter 15 Cenozoic Life – Chapter 16 Special Project Presentations	Review Questions- Mesozoic Review Questions- Cenozoic	Mesozoic Fossils Cenozoic Fossils
5. Finish up any remaining topics and Review Lab Exam- Fossils Identification Final Exam- written part- Eras	Review	Lab Exam- Fossil Identification

This instructor has zero Tolerance for Plagiarism and Cheating

Student with Disabilities (ADA): HCCS is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (section 504)

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law/.

Also visit the ADA web site at: <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-services/>

Academic Honesty: “Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by the college system against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Penalties can include a grade of "0" or "F" on the particular assignment, failure in the course, academic probation, or even dismissal from the college. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.” Cheating includes looking at or copying from another student's exam, orally communicating or receiving answers during an exam, having another person take an exam or complete a project or assignment, using unauthorized notes, texts, or other materials for an exam, and obtaining or distributing an unauthorized copy of an exam or any part of an exam. Plagiarism means passing off as his/her own the ideas or writings of another (that is, without

giving proper credit by documenting sources). Plagiarism includes submitting a paper, report or project that someone else has prepared, in whole or in part. Collusion is inappropriately collaborating on assignments designed to be completed independently. These definitions are not exhaustive. When there is clear evidence of cheating, plagiarism, collusion or misrepresentation, a faculty member will take disciplinary action including but not limited to: requiring the student to retake or resubmit an exam or assignment, assigning a grade of zero or "F" for an exam or an assignment; or assigning a grade of "F" for the course. Additional sanctions, including being withdrawn from the course/program or expelled from school, may be imposed on a student who violates the standards of academic integrity. See the student handbook for additional information

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

Policy on Electronic Devices: The use of electronic devices by students in the classroom is up to the discretion of the instructor. Any use of such devices for purposes other than student learning is strictly prohibited. If an instructor perceives such use as disruptive and/or inappropriate, the instructor has the right to terminate such use. If the behavior continues, the student may be subject to disciplinary action to include removal from the classroom or referral to the Dean of Student Services

Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities for information regarding reasonable accommodations.

HCC Sexual Harassment Policy and Title IX: Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status-in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross

Director EEO/Compliance

Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity

3100 Main

(713) 718-8271

Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu

Student Basic Needs: Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

<http://www.hccs.edu/district/about-us/policies/d-student-services/d4-student-rights--responsibilities/>

and in the Student Handbook

HCC Campus Carry statement: At HCC the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is our first priority. As of August 1, 2017, Houston Community College is subject to the Campus Carry Law (SB11 2015). For more information, visit the HCC Campus Carry web page at <http://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>

HCC Policy Statement:

Please familiarize yourself with campus policies in the HCC Student Handbook for topics including: ADA (students with disabilities), Scholastic Dishonesty, General Student Attendance, Repeating courses, Electronic Devices in class, Threatening Behavior, Religious Holidays, Withdrawal processes and more:

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>