

**GLY1102 AGE OF DINOSAURS
ALL SECTIONS
SPRING 2015 SYLLABUS**

CONTENTS:

| | |
|--|---|
| INSTRUCTOR:..... | 2 |
| TEACHING ASSISTANTS:..... | 2 |
| QUESTIONS:..... | 2 |
| EMAIL | 3 |
| SKYPE OFFICE HOURS | 3 |
| COURSE OBJECTIVES..... | 3 |
| THE COURSE HANDBOOK: YOUR FIRST SOURCE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE | 4 |
| Always check the handbook before emailing or Skyping us with your questions..... | 4 |
| EXAMS AND GRADING..... | 4 |
| EXTRA CREDIT | 5 |
| GRADING SCALE..... | 5 |
| THE TEXTBOOK..... | 5 |
| STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES | 6 |
| ACADEMIC HONESTY AND STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT..... | 6 |
| UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES..... | 6 |

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Paul F. Ciesielski
Department of Geological Sciences
Box 112120 Williamson Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-2120

Office Location: Skype (See Skype office hours in course e-learning menu bar)

Office Hours: at your request on Skype

Email: Emails to your instructor or TAs must be done using the Sakai mail tool in the menu to your left)

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

- Karastin Katusin

QUESTIONS:

DO NOT e-mail your instructor or TAs about technical issues with Faulkner Courseware!

- If you have a question about the course, check in the Course Handbook and Syllabus first.
- NOTE: If you are asking a question about information that is already contained in the Course Handbook or Syllabus, be sure to state what is unclear about the existing information. Otherwise, you will be referred to the handbook and syllabus.
- If the answer is not in the handbook/syllabus, check to see if anyone else had the same question on the "**Course Questions**" **discussion board** (link to the discussions tool is in the menu to the left).
 - Please post the question if no one else has.
 - Be sure to give your post a descriptive subject line so that other students who may have the same question can find it.
- For issues with the Faulkner Courseware, e-mail questions@faulknerpress.com. Remember that the speediest way to resolve any problems with the Faulkner Courseware is to e-mail Faulkner at questions@faulknerpress.com.

- If you have a question that is of a personal nature or one that concerns grades, contact your instructor or TA through the class Sakai mail tool.

EMAIL

Please use the Sakai mail tool (in the menu to your left) to email the instructor or TA.

Important: Dr. Ciesielski will not answer email sent to his regular (non-Sakai) UF email address.

SKYPE OFFICE HOURS

If you cannot find the answer to your question in the handbook you can get a rapid response through Skype. We have approximately 15 hours a week of Skype office hours available.

Skype with your Instructor or TAs with the Skype name: uf.dinosaurs (See Skype installation link and directions below) Check on TA availability through the TA Skype Hours link in the left hand e-Learning course menu.

Talk or chat with your Instructor or one of the TAs through Skype:

- Get a free skype account (unless you already have one.)
- Go to: <http://www.skype.com>
- Download and install the software
- Use the Skype Test Call to make certain that your sound is working properly
- Check the TA availability in the menu to the left (Click on TA Skype Hours)
- TA Skype name is uf.dinosaurs
- For step-by-step instructions on how to use Skype go to:
<http://www.skype.com/help/guides/>

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Provide an introduction to the geologic sciences through an examination of a unique interval of geologic history...The Mesozoic Era.
- To examine the dynamic role of plate tectonics in the movement of continents and the evolution of life.
- To explore the geologic processes responsible for modification of the landscape and the preservation of the fossil record of life on Earth through time.

- To learn how the geologic record offers up its clues about the biological and physical history of Earth.
- To examine through examples the processes of major scientific discoveries.
- To conduct an examination of life of the Mesozoic, with an emphasis on the prolific record of dinosaurs.
- To examine the diverse fossil record of dinosaurs; including, their biology, behavior, and distribution.
- To see life of the Mesozoic within the context of the tectonics, biogeography and climate of the times.

THE COURSE HANDBOOK: YOUR FIRST SOURCE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE

Your first source of information for answering your questions is the Course Handbook. To find the handbook go to e-Learning in Sakai and click on the Handbook links found in the center of the Course Materials page.

ALWAYS CHECK THE HANDBOOK BEFORE EMAILING OR SKYPING US WITH YOUR QUESTIONS.

EXAMS AND GRADING

All topic practice choice questions, Online Exercises, Midterm and Final are taken within the multimedia courseware.

- Practice choice questions and Online Exercises are un-proctored and open notes.
- The midterm and final are taken through the multimedia courseware but proctored by ProctorU. See your handbook for details.

Your grade is based upon:

- Practice Choice Questions 20%
- Online Exercises 40%
- Midterm 20%
- Final 20%
- Extra Credit (see handbook) 3% added to final average

A much more detailed discussion of exams and grading occurs within the handbook.

EXTRA CREDIT

Earn Extra Credit through the following (must be taken prior to the deadline listed in your Course Calendar to receive credit):

- Handbook Syllabus Quiz- 3%

Completion of the quiz gives you a 3% extra credit addition to your final course grade. This extra credit item is found linked to in the left banner of Sakai under “Extra Credit”.

GRADING SCALE

Letter Grade

A= >90%

B+=87.5-90%

B=80-87.5%

C+=77.5-80%

C=70-77.5%

D+=67.5-70%

D=60-67.5%

E=<60

THE TEXTBOOK

The majority of the course material for this class is located in your interactive textbook: *Age of Dinosaurs* by Dr. Paul Ciesielski, published by Faulkner Press. This multimedia courseware contains:

- Interactive textbook with links to web articles, narrated images and videos
- Practice Choice Questions
- Online Exercise Exams
- Midterm and Final Exams

Purchase of the Faulkner courseware is **Required** for this course.

- Purchase, Download, and Install Faulkner Courseware.
- REMEMBER the ebook can be reinstalled on another computer if the need arises.
- You will need to purchase your Faulkner Courseware online.

- Instructions on how to download and register your software can be found in the “About Your Interactive Textbook” page
- If you are waiting on financial aid and want to view a free Deferment Demo Mode you will only have access to the first three topics (readings, presentations, and practice questions) of the course.
 - You will not have access to any (graded) online exams and the **practice work you do will not be saved.**
 - In Deferment Demo Mode the courseware is installed only for one use, you will need to reinstall if you wish to use it again.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

See your Handbook.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

See your Handbook.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

See your Handbook.