GEOLOGY 4490– Selected Topics- Research in the Geosciences  
SPRING SEMESTER 2013  
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Text: no text required

Class Meetings: Tue 06:00 to 06:50 p.m., room EN 108  
Office Hours: Tue/Thu 3:30 to 5:30 pm, Wed 9 am to noon or by appointment. I encourage you to email me with any questions or concerns you may have (see email address listed above).

Course Description
This Seminar-style class consists of a series of weekly meetings during which you will be exposed to varying topics related to research in the geosciences. The main focus will be on the following subject areas:
   a) Geologic research (in-house and external speakers)  
   b) Planning your college career and beyond  
   c) Presentation of scientific material

This (or “Undergraduate Seminar - Careers in the Geosciences”) is a required course for geology majors. Grade assigned will be “credit” (CR) or “no credit” (NC). This course may not be repeated for credit but attendance in subsequent semesters is encouraged.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students should have:
    Received information on how to plan their college career  
    Received information on current topics in geology  
    Received information on presenting research to an audience

Evaluation and Grade Assignment
Grade assigned will be “credit” (CR) or “no credit” (NC). In order to pass this class, students may miss no more than 2 class meetings during the course of one semester. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in each class meeting. In addition, each student must turn in a portfolio at the end of the semester in which he/she includes a summary page for each attended presentation. These summaries must include:
   - Title of presentation  
   - Presenter  
   - Research area  
   - Summary of talk (2 paragraphs)  
   - Most interesting facts learned (list top 3)  
   - Question for presenter

Classroom/Professional Behavior
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. The use of cell phones, pagers, CD
players, headphones and similar electronic devices is not allowed in class. Keep these devices in your bags, not on the tables. You may be asked to refrain from using a laptop in class.

Cheating (e.g. copying work of others) will not be tolerated and will result in a non-passing grade for the course and possible further disciplinary action by the university.

Notice to Students with Disabilities and Veterans
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Corpus Christi Hall (CCH) 116, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Academic Advising
The College of Science and Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Center for Instructions CI 350, and can be reached at 825-6094.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. April 12, 2013 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of "W" this term.

Listservs

gostu-list@listserv.tamucc.edu  Geology listserv

Class Meeting Schedule
## SPEAKERS TO BE ANNOUNCED THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER

### January
- Tue 01/29

### February
- Tue 02/05
- Tue 02/12
- Tue 02/19
- Tue 02/26

### March
- Tue 03/05
- Tue 03/12 Spring Break, no classes
- Tue 03/19

### April
- Tue 04/02
- Tue 04/09
- Tue 04/16
- Tue 04/23
- Tue 04/30

### May
- Tue 05/01