

EAS 3803: Geologic History
(3 credit hours)
Fall 2020

Monday's & Wednesday's 1230-145pm

Instructor: Dr. Samantha Wilson
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Office Hours: By appointment

As a member of the Georgia Tech community, I am committed to creating a learning environment in which all of my students feel safe and included. Because we are individuals with varying needs, I am reliant on your feedback to achieve this goal. To that end, I invite you to enter into dialogue with me about the things I can stop, start, and continue doing to make my classroom an environment in which every student feels valued and can engage actively in our learning community.

- Learning Outcomes:**
- Identify the major techniques used by geologists to assess geologic time
 - Recognize the sequence of and interrelationships between major events in the history of the Earth, its surface, and its life forms

Important Dates:	August 21 st	Last day to add/drop
	September 7 th	Labor Day: No Class
	October 24 th	Withdrawal deadline
	November 23 rd	Last day of class

Academic Honor Code:

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. The instructor, teaching assistants and students in this class, as members of the Georgia Tech community, are bound by the Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code. Please see <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> for Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, which you are required to uphold. Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Course Materials:

Recommended Text: Prothero, D.R., & Dott Jr., R.H., 2004, Evolution of the Earth (7th edition): McGraw Hill.

Canvas: This course will utilize Canvas for all lecture related material.

Lecture Procedures & Policies:

Attendance: It is strongly recommended that you attend all lectures since some class participation activities will occur during class. If you must miss a lecture for an excused absence (e.g. athletics, interview, etc.), it is your responsibility to learn the material you missed by carefully reviewing the lectures and contacting Samantha. If you know that you will be traveling or unable to attend a lecture then please communicate with me as soon as possible as we can work together to help you make up any missed material. In order for absences due to medical and family emergencies to be excused, appropriate documentation must be submitted to the Dean of Students.

Lecture: Any remote lectures will be administered through BlueJeans Meetings. To keep a sense of normalcy, I would encourage everyone to put their camera's on. Please be considerate to all members in our virtual class chat, Q&A, and Canvas messaging. **Any inappropriate or offensive language will result in disciplinary action.**

Virtual Quizzes: Quizzes will be completely closed notes. This means no internet tabs, no phone, no notes, no textbook, no friends, and pretty much no to everything except for your knowledge.

Collaboration & Group Work: Collaboration is encouraged to discuss assignments, but answers on all individual assignments must be your own.

Make-Up Policy: Communication is key. If you anticipate that you will miss a quiz or assignment deadline, then you must either provide a doctor's note or notify me at least a week prior to the due date with a valid reason for missing the quiz/assignment. Failure to do either of the previously mentioned will result in a 0 for the assignment. In order for absences due to medical and family emergencies to be excused, appropriate documentation must be submitted to the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will then send us (the instructors) the appropriate documentation. **Without prior approval or a doctor's note, late assignments (including quizzes and class participation activities) will not be accepted and be assigned a 0.**

Extra Credit: To be fair to all students, no extra credit will be offered.

Grading: You can check your current grades at any time on Canvas > Grades. Grades will be posted within one week of assignment deadline. The breakdown of grading is below.

Quizzes	Your quiz score will be the average of 8 quizzes	30%
Final Project	Final project details will be discussed later	30%
Final Presentation	Final presentation details will be discussed later	20%
Class Participation & Homework	Participation and homework activities will be announced during lectures	20%
Course total		100%

Quizzes: Lecture quizzes will test previously discussed topics. Please check schedule for quiz dates (quiz dates are subject to change).

Final Project: Project details will be provided at a later time.

Final Presentation: There will be a final oral presentation on an assigned topic during the assigned final time. Presentation details will be provided at a later time.

Class Participation & Homework: Class participation and homework activities will be announced during lecture and on Canvas.

Grading Scale: The **grading** for the course is as follows

Grade	Percentage
A	90.0 – 100
B	80.0 – 89.9
C	70.0 – 79.9
D	65.0 – 69.9
F	<65.0

Grade Curve: Depending on the distribution of student scores at the end of the course, the scores may be curved to reflect the scale described above (**up to the instructor's discretion**).

Date	Lecture #	Quiz	Topic (s)	Textbook Chapter	Textbook Reading
Aug. 17	1		Introduction	-	-
Aug. 19	2		Earth's Early Hypothesis	2	22-32
Aug. 24	3		Earth's Early Hypothesis Cont'd	5	88-90
Aug. 26	4	Quiz 1	Relative Dating: Stratigraphy	-	-
Aug. 31	5		Relative Dating: Stratigraphy Cont'd	-	-
Sept. 2	6		Relative Dating: Stratigraphy Cont'd	4	68-83
Sept. 7	NO CLASS: Labor Day Holiday				
Sept. 9	7	Quiz 2	Fossils	2	16-22
Sept. 14	8		Project Overview	3	40-64
Sept. 16	9		Fossils & Evolution	5	90-98
Sept. 21	10	Quiz 3	Absolute Dating	6	102-111
Sept. 23	11		Big Bang & Earth Formation		
Sept. 28	12		Precambrian	6	111-119
Sept. 30	13		Precambrian & Plate Tectonics	7	122-137
Oct. 5	14	Quiz 4	Plate Tectonics	7	138-147
Oct. 7	15		Precambrian	8	152-177
Oct. 12	16		Precambrian		
Oct. 14	17		Precambrian	9	182-191
Oct. 19	18	Quiz 5	Phanerozoic: Paleozoic	9&10	192-197
Oct. 21	19		Phanerozoic: Paleozoic	11-13	219-344
Oct. 26	20		Phanerozoic: Paleozoic		
Oct. 28	21		Phanerozoic: Paleozoic		
Nov. 2	22	Quiz 6	Phanerozoic: Mesozoic	14	352-410
Nov. 4	23		Phanerozoic: Mesozoic		
Nov. 9	24		Phanerozoic: Mesozoic		
Nov. 11	25	Quiz 7	Phanerozoic: Cenozoic	15-16	414-498
Nov. 16	26		Phanerozoic: Cenozoic		
Nov. 18	27		Phanerozoic: Cenozoic		
Nov. 23	28	Quiz 8	Project Work Day	-	-
December 7 th 11:20 am- 2:10pm Final Project Presentations					

Schedule is subject to change

Access and Accommodations

If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services to explore reasonable accommodations.

The Office of Disability Services can be contacted by:

Phone: **404-894-2563**

Email: dsinfo@gatech.edu

Website: <https://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>

Resources:

Academic Support

- [Center for Academic Success](#)
 - [1-to-1 tutoring](#)
 - [Peer-Led Undergraduate Study \(PLUS\)](#)
 - [Academic coaching](#)
- Residence Life's [Learning Assistance Program](#)
- [OMED Educational Services](#) - Group study sessions and tutoring programs
- [Communication Center](#) - Individualized help with writing and multimedia projects
- [Academic advisors](#) for your major

Personal Support

Georgia Tech Resources

- The [Office of the Dean of Students](#) | **404-894-6367** | 2nd floor, Smithgall Student Services Building; You also may request assistance [here](#)
- [Counseling Center](#) | **404-894-2575** | Smithgall Student Services Building 2nd floor
 - Services include short-term individual counseling, group counseling, couples counseling, testing and assessment, referral services, and crisis intervention.
 - *Students in crisis may walk in during business hours (8am-5pm, Monday through Friday) or contact the counselor on call after hours at **404-894-2204**.*
- [Students' Temporary Assistance and Resources \(STAR\)](#)
 - Can assist with interview clothing, food, and housing needs.
- [Stamps Health Services](#) | **404-894-1420**
- [OMED Educational Services](#) | **404-894-3959**
- [Women's Resource Center](#) | **404-385-0230**
- [LGBTQIA Resource Center](#) | **404 385 4780**
- [Veteran's Resource Center](#) | **404-385-2067**
- [Georgia Tech Police](#) | **404-894-2500**

National Resources

- The [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) | 1-800-273-8255
 - Free and confidential support 24/7 to those in suicidal or emotional distress
- The [Trevor Project](#)
 - Crisis intervention and suicide prevention support to members of the LGBTQ+ community and their friends
 - Telephone | **1-866-488-7386** | 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
 - [Online chat](#) | 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
 - Text message | Text "START" to **687687** | 24hrs day, 7 days a week