


Course Syllabus

	Course	Stratigraphy & Sedimentology Geos 5441.001
	Professor	Dr. Randy Griffin
	Term	Spring 2009
	Meetings	Lecture T & Th 1:00 - 2:15 FN 2.104; Lab Th 2:30-5:30 FA 2.206

Professor's Contact Information

Office Phone	972-883-2430
Other Phone	
Office Location	FA 2.404
Email Address	griffin@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	Thursday 5:30-6:30, or by appointment
Other Information	

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-Other Restrictions	
Course Description	Provides an overview of sedimentology and stratigraphy, and serves as one of the preparatory classes for more advanced geoscience subjects.
Learning Outcomes	Students will gain a understanding of sedimentological and stratigraphic processes, and events through readings, lectures, field trips and laboratory assignments. A term paper and presentation on an agreeable subject with the instructor will be required.
Required Texts &	Boggs, Jr., Sam, Principles of Sedimentology and Stratigraphy, 4th Ed.
Suggested Texts, Readings & Materials	Supplimental readings as assigned by instructor. There are also 4 required literature assignments scheduled through the semester, and a term paper that shall focus on a literature review of interest to each individual student and the instructor. Each assignment will require reading an assigned paper and writing a written summary. In addition to the term paper, each student will make a 15 minute presentation to the class at the end of the semester.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Month	Date(s)	Topic, Assignment, Due Date(s), Exam Date(s)
January	13	General Information and Introduction for Lecture & Lab
	15	Ch 1: Origin and Transport of Sedimentary Materials, Lab 1a: Weathering and Soils
	20	Ch 2: Transport & Deposition of Siliciclastic Sediments
	22	Ch 3: Sedimentary Textures, Lab 1b: Sedimentary Textures
	27	Ch 4: Sedimentary Structures: First Literature assignemnt
February	29	Ch 4: Biogenic Structures, Lab 2a: Sedimentary Structures
	3	Ichnology, Assigned Reading: MUST CHOOSE TERM PAPER SUBJECT
	5	Ch 5: Siliciclastic Sedimentary Rocks, Lab 2b: Ichnofacies
	10	Ch 5: Siliciclastic Sedimentary Rocks: Second Literature assignment today
	12	Volcaniclastic Deposits, Assigned Reading; Lab 3a: Siliciclastic Petrography
	14	Day Trip: Site to be determined, Lab 3b
	17	Volcaniclastic Deposits, Assigned Reading
	19	Review for Exam 1, lecture and lab components; Lab 3c: Siliciclastic Petrography
	24	Ch 6: Carbonate Sedimentary Rocks: Third Literature assignmen today
	26	Exam 1
March	3	Ch 6: Carbonate Sedimentary Rocks
	5	Ch 7: Chemical/Biochemical/Carbonaceous Rocks; Lab 4a: Carbonates
	7-8	Weekend Field Trip: Lake Murray Spillway Clastic, Kinblade Carbonate: Lab 3d, 4b
	10	Ch 7: Chemical/Biochemical/Carbonaceous Rocks

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	12	Ch 8: Continental Environments; Lab 4c: Carbonate Petrography
	17	Spring Break
	19	Spring Break
	24	Ch 9: Marginal-Marine Environments: Fourth Literature Assignment today
	26	Ch 10: Siliclastic Marine Environments
	27-29	Palo Duro Canyon, Siliciclastic and Carbonate Caprock; Lab 5a
	31	Ch 11: Carbonate and Evaporite Environments
April	2	Ch 11: Carbonate and Evaporite Environments; Lab 5b
	7	Ch 12: Lithostratigraphy
	9	Ch 13: Seismic, Sequence and Magnetic Stratigraphy; Lab 5c
	14	Ch 14: Biostratigraphy
	16	Ch 15: Chronostratigraphy and Geologic Time; Lab 6
	21	Ch 16: Basin Analysis, Tectonics, and Sedimentation
		Mantle Plumes: The Sedimentological Response: Term Paper Presentations, Paper dueToday
	23	
	28	Mantle Plumes: The Sedimentological Response
	30	Review for comprehensive final exam; Lab Final Exam
May	5	Reading Day, No Class
	7	Final Exam, Time 11:00 AM

Course & University Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria	Lab Assignments: 1-6 @ 5% each, 4 reading assignments @ 2.5% each, and Term Paper 15%: Total 55% Exam 1: 15% Lab Final: 15% Final Exam: 15% Final grades will be assigned as follows: 100-97=A+, 96-93=A, 90-92=A-, 89-87=A+. 86-83=B, 82-80=B-, 70-77=C+, 76-73=C, 72-70=C-, <=69=F
Make-up Exams	Will arrange if given prior notice
Extra Credit	None
Late Work	5 points off for every day late
Special Assignments	Assigned reading from the literature
Class Attendance	Strongly encouraged
Classroom Citizenship	
Field Trip Policies	There will be a three mandatory field trips: a 1 day trip, and 2 weekend fieldtrips. These fieldtrips require work which will be evaluated as a part of the lab assignment as indicated in the schedule. UTD will provide transportation, the use of personal cars is generally not allowed.

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<p>Student Conduct & Discipline</p>	<p>The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, <i>A to Z Guide</i>, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.</p> <p>The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the <i>Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3</i>, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).</p> <p>A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.</p>
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<p>Academic Integrity</p>	<p>The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.</p> <p>Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.</p> <p>Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.</p>
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<p>Email Use</p>	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.</p>
<p>Withdrawal from Class</p>	<p>The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled</p>
<p>Student Grievance Procedures</p>	<p>Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i> .</p> <p>In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.</p> <p>Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations</p>

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Incomplete Grades	As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F .
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Disability Services	<p>The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)</p> <p>Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.</p>
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<p>Religious Holy Days</p>	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.</p> <p>The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.</p> <p>If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.</p>
<p>Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities</p>	<p>Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.</p>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor