

August – December, 2005

GEOS 5V08 Aqueous Geochemistry

Description: This course will be taught primarily from the perspective of aqueous geochemistry. Aqueous systems will serve as a metaphor for all geochemical systems. The primary reason for this is so that what we do in the field and in the laboratory will be more tightly integrated with what we do in the lecture part of the course.

The objective of this course is to enable you to develop an understanding of geochemical principles through traditional lecture, group discussions and especially through hands-on field sampling and laboratory determinations of aqueous samples. Through building an understanding of aqueous geochemical principles and processes, by the end of this course you will have the skills necessary to allow you to interpret and analyze geochemical data, in aqueous systems and other geological systems.

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Leybourne
Phone: 972-883-2403
Office: FO 2.618A
Office hours: at pre-arranged times
E-mail: mleybo@utdallas.edu

TA: Kamal Ali
Office: FO 2.622
Office hours: TBA

Time: Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday, 11.00 am – 12.15 pm

Location: FN 2.202 (at times we will also meet in the Geochemistry labs, FO 2.624 and FO 2.606)

Textbooks: Required: Principles of Environmental Geochemistry, G. Nelson Eby.
Recommended: Drever, J.I., The Geochemistry of Natural Waters
Recommended: Brownlow, A.H., Geochemistry.

Alternatively, there are several other very good aqueous geochemistry textbooks including Langmuir (Aqueous Environmental Geochemistry – very good book), and Stumm and Morgan (Aquatic Chemistry). Faure's Principles and Applications of Geochemistry is a viable substitute for Brownlow. Also very good to have on one's bookshelf, old (1965) but still in print is Garrels and Christ, Solutions, Minerals and Equilibria.

Field Trips: As we will discuss, one of the major activities in this course will be a series of field trips to Lake Texoma. These trips will be day-long and/or weekend long depending on weather, timing and logistics. It is my intention to have 4 days or so of sample and data collection on Lake Texoma and possibly another lake closer to Dallas.

Assessment:

Quizzes (5 @ 2% each)	10%
Research Paper 1	25%
Research Paper 2	25%
Final Exam	25%
Homework assignments	15%

Final exam will be on Tuesday Nov 29th at 11.00 am in lecture room

Syllabus

The course will be taught in 6 modules, each of 4-6 lectures.

Module 1	Basic principles and thermodynamics	(1, 2)
Module 2	pH, alkalinity, the carbonate system, redox	(3, 4)
Module 3	Analytical methods	
Module 4	Weathering, mineralogy	(7, 9)
Module 5	Geochemistry of waters, isotopes, adsorption, complexation	(6, 8, 9)
Module 6	Interpretation of geochemical data and scientific communication	