

# Syllabus

## EES 1004 Section 01: Earth and Environments Through Time: Fall 2008

**Class times:** Monday and Wednesday 2:00 – 3:15 pm in GP 1000

**Instructor:** Dr. Royhan Gani

**Office:** Geology/Psychology Bldng Room 1034

**Office hours:** Wednesday 10 am to 12 pm, or by appointment

**Email:** mgani@uno.edu

**Phone:** 504-280-1392

**Text:** The Earth Through Time, 8th edition (2006), by Levin, ISBN: 978-0-471-69743-5.

**Lecture Outlines are accessible via the Blackboard page for this course**

**Course objectives:** Earth and Environment through time is designed to introduce you to the science of interpreting Earth history from the geologic record. We will begin by reviewing processes and the principles underlying geological investigations. We will then focus on utilizing these concepts to interpret the geologic record and the changes that our unique earth environment has undergone. The course will culminate with a perusal of 4.5 billion years of geologic time and the evolution of Earth systems.

**Student learning objectives:** After successfully completing this course, students will appraise how the earth systems evolved through time that will help them to better analyze the present status of the earth and its environment as a way to the solution of the global challenges regarding earth's habitat. Students will also be able to investigate deep time records of the earth beneficial to the society.

**Your expectations of me:** You should expect a teacher who wants you to succeed in every respect in this class, and cares about your learning and attempts to make the subject interesting, meaningful and challenging. You should expect fair and timely evaluation of assigned work. You should expect to feel comfortable enough during class to raise questions without ridicule or embarrassment and to have questions addressed when relevant.

**My expectations of you:** I expect students who are enthusiastic to knowledge (hence come to university to progress with their education), who want to learn about the world around them and who recognize the value of learning above grades. I expect to be respected during class time by giving your full attention. I expect you to respect your colleagues who have come here to learn and not to disrupt them by reading the paper, talking or doing other inappropriate activities during class time. I expect you to be on time to class, sit towards the front and not to leave until class is over. I expect you will keep up with the material covered by reading ahead, asking questions and rereading notes. **All Cell Phones Must be Turned Off before class begins.**

It is the responsibility of all students to familiarize themselves with the rules and regulations governing student conduct as published whether in print or on the web, in the UNO Student Handbook and other official publications. An on-line version is available at Student Handbook, [http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/handbook/0809\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/handbook/0809_handbook.pdf)

**Exams:** There will be three exams including the final. **No makeup exams will be allowed without a valid University excuse. In order to make up a missed exam you must present documentation for your absence.** The exam dates are tentatively listed in the schedule. Exams will generally consist of multiple-choice (or matching, or true/false) questions. **You will need to bring your own BLUE scantron sheet to the test.** All material covered in the lecture is open for test questions. Final exam will be cumulative in coverage, but will emphasize materials covered after exam #2.

**Class attendance:** Class attendance is mandatory and I will periodically take roll. If you know you will be missing a class ahead of time because of a valid University excuse, then inform me ahead of time. The University Policy regarding class attendance can be found at: [http://www.registrar.uno.edu/catalog/0809catalog/university\\_regulations.cfm](http://www.registrar.uno.edu/catalog/0809catalog/university_regulations.cfm)

**Cheating and Plagiarism** is completely unacceptable and violators will be prosecuted. Minimum penalty for such acts is failure of the class. It is remarkably easy to identify when cheating is occurring so DO NOT even consider it; it places everyone in an unfortunate situation. See the UNO "Students Policy Manual" for a discussion of such topics if you have any questions, or ask me. An on-line version is available at [http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/academic\\_dishonesty.cfm](http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/academic_dishonesty.cfm)

**Students with disability:** It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individual basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirement. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services (LIB 120) as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. See the UNO Policy for Students with Disabilities at [http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/disabilities\\_policy.cfm](http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/disabilities_policy.cfm)

## **Planned topics (subject to revision with notification):**

8/25-8/27	Chapters 1-2: Introduction, Science & Geology, Early Geologists
9/1-9/3	Labor Day Holiday 9/1, no class; Chapter 3: Geologic Time
9/8-9/10	Chapters 4-5: Rocks and Minerals, Sedimentary Record
9/15-9/17	Chapters 5-6: Sedimentary Record (continued), Fossil Record
9/22-9/24	Chapter 6: Fossil Record (cont.), <b>Exam #1 on Wednesday 9/24</b>
9/29-10/1	Chapter 7: Plate Tectonics
10/6-10/8	Chapters 8-9: Early Earth (Archeozoic), Proterozoic
10/13-10/15	Chapter 10: Early Paleozoic Events
10/20-10/22	Chapter 11: Late Paleozoic Events
10/27-10/29	Chapter 12: Paleozoic Life
11/3-11/5	<b>Exam #2 on Monday 11/3</b> ; Chapter 13: Mesozoic Events
11/10-11/12	Chapter 14: Mesozoic Life
11/17-11/19	Chapter 15: Cenozoic Events
11/24-11/26	Chapter 16: Cenozoic Life
12/1-12/3	Chapter 17: Human Origin
12/10	<b>Exam #3: Cumulative Final Examination</b> <b>3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Wednesday December 10</b>

## **Grading:**

Exam #1: ~30%  
Exam #2: ~30%  
Final Exam #3: ~35%  
Class attendance: ~5%

Grades based on straight percentages (or slightly curved if warranted). Example:

90% - 100% of total points possible = A  
80% - 89% of total points possible = B  
70% - 79% of total points possible = C  
60% - 69% of total points possible = D  
Below 60% is not passing