Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth C. Koeman-Shields
Email: ekoemanshields@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-6767 (office)
Phone: 616-446-6145 (cell)
Office: VIN 124

Virtual Office Hours (hours subject to change): MTWR 10:00 am-11:00 am; MW 2:00 pm-3:00 pm; or by appointment

Course Information

Student Learning Outcomes
This course is designed to familiarize the student with the processes, principles, and theories involved in Historical Geology. The student will how to carefully defend their thinking when answering questions and with their writing. Learning outcomes will be evaluated by homework, discussion posts, quizzes, and exams. At the end of this course, the student will be able to:
   1. Describe the scientific method and apply it in a geological context.
   2. Identify common rocks and minerals and interpret how they form.
   3. Explain how the Geologic Time Scale was made, how stratigraphic/fossil correlation is used and how numerical ages were added.
   4. Describe the theory of plate tectonics including identifying plate boundaries, describing plate motions at boundaries, and identifying landforms/features associated with each boundary. Describe the early theories that laid the foundation for plate tectonics (continental drift, sea floor spreading).
   5. Draw and describe how the several types of organisms lived and changed through time.

Required Texts and Materials
- Note: A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.
Course Delivery
This is an online course that will be delivered via Blackboard.¹ If you choose, you can complete this course without visiting the ASU campus. Each week, several learning modules will be posted on Monday morning and due on Sunday at end of day (11:59 pm Central Time Zone). This gives you a full week to complete each week’s material. The learning modules contain lecture videos, quizzes, and other assignments for you to complete.

If you do go one campus, please refer to this Health and Safety web page² for updated information about campus guidelines as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communication
Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails, include the course name and section number in your subject line. I will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Technology
You will be required to have a computer with internet access for this course. You may also be required to turn in assignments on Blackboard using a scanner or camera.

Access to exams will be through Respondus Lockdown Browser. Respondus requires a desktop computer or laptop. For best results, use an ethernet cable to connect to your Internet source instead of relying on Wifi. Refer to the Blackboard course for Respondus installation instructions.

Core Curriculum Student Learning Outcomes
The following list of core curriculum student learning outcomes will be met and measured during this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assessment Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue.</td>
<td>Homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective visual communication.</td>
<td>Journal Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion</td>
<td>Homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion</td>
<td>Quiz/Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Work effectively with others to support and accomplish a shared goal.</td>
<td>IDEA Forms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Module Assignments</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board/Journals</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exams (2)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (cumulative)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Learning Module Quizzes**: These are assigned each week. They will be available Monday morning and due Sunday by end of day (11:59 pm). Quizzes will be administered through Blackboard and will not be timed (they are open book/notes).
- **Discussion Board/Journals**: There will be one discussion board assigned each week and you will be placed in a discussion group of 4-5 people. The prompt will be a conceptual/critical thinking question. Your response is due Friday of that week at 11:59 pm. Then, you will have to respond to one student’s post which is due Sunday at 11:59pm. More information is detailed in Blackboard. Individual journals will also be assigned each week. These are also conceptual/critical thinking question and your response is only visible to me.
- **Midterm Exams**: There will be 2 midterms throughout the course (see schedule for dates). They will be administered through Respondus Lockdown Browser and timed.
- **Final Exam**: The final exam is cumulative, administered through Respondus Lockdown Browser, timed, and will be available Monday through Thursday during the week of finals.

Grading System
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. The following grading scale is in use for this course:
- A = 90.00-100%
- B = 80.00-89.99%
- C = 70.00-79.99%
- D = 60.00-69.99%
- F = 0-59.99%

Attendance and Assignment Policy
You are expected to keep track of due dates and complete each learning module. Missed assignments, quizzes, and exams cannot be made up. NOTE: You are NOT automatically dropped if you stop completing assignments. The last day to drop this course is April 30, 2021.
General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would
keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 \textit{Grading Procedures}\textsuperscript{7} for more information.

\textbf{Plagiarism}

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy\textsuperscript{8} in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. I encourage you to work together on homework assignments and to study together for exams. However, anything you turn in must be in your own words.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.\textsuperscript{9}

\textbf{Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days}

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for \textit{Observance of Religious Holy Day}\textsuperscript{10} for more information.

\textbf{Title IX at Angelo State University}

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.  
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator  
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022  
michelle.boone@angelo.edu
You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial at all times while on campus. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Modifications to the Syllabus

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.
# Course Schedule (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assigned Reading</th>
<th>Exam Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1: 3/22 - 3/26</td>
<td>Navigating the course + Syllabus + What is Historical geology? Exploring Earth</td>
<td>Syllabus Chapter 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2: 3/29 - 4/2</td>
<td>Minerals and Rocks The Diversity of Life</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3: 4/5 - 4/9</td>
<td>Sedimentary Rocks and Environments Dating of the Rock Record</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Chapter 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4: 4/12 - 4/16</td>
<td>Evolution Plate Tectonics Mountain Building</td>
<td>Chapter 7 Chapter 8 Chapter 9</td>
<td>Exam #1 (Due 4/14) Chapters 1-3, 5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5: 4/19 - 4/23</td>
<td>The Hadean and Archean The Proterozoic The Early Paleozoic</td>
<td>Chapter 11 Chapter 12 Chapter 13</td>
<td>Exam #2 (Due 4/28) Chapters 7-8, 11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6: 4/26 - 4/30</td>
<td>The Middle Paleozoic The Late Paleozoic The Early Mesozoic</td>
<td>Chapter 14 Chapter 15 Chapter 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7: 5/3 – 5/7</td>
<td>The Cretaceous The Paleogene The Late Cenozoic The Holocene</td>
<td>Chapter 17 Chapter 18 Chapter 19 Chapter 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8: 5/10 - 5/13</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td>Due 5/13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. [https://blackboard.angelo.edu/](https://blackboard.angelo.edu/)
3. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
4. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
6. [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
7. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
9. [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
10. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)