



Douglas
College

Course Information

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A: Division: INSTRUCTIONAL DATE: 01-June-2002 B: Department: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY C: Deno

new Update: X Revision of Course
Information form: _____

DATED: _____

GEOL 320 D: Paleontology: Life Through Time E: 4 C: Geology
Subject & Course No. Descriptive Title Semester Credit

the nature and summarize Review the fossil record. Students will learn how fossils are (Enter dates & section) Interpretation of the fossil record. This course investigates the interpretation of the fossil record.

N: Textbooks and materials to be purchased by student. If none, check off "None".
 1 Use Bibliography Form

1 Robert L. Carroll (1989). *Paleobiology*. 2nd Ed. John Wiley

Stearn, Colin W. and
 Sons, Inc., New York

Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings:

- O. Course Objectives; P. Course Content; Q. Method of Instruction;
 R. Course Evaluation

O. Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Use a variety of means to identify and classify a wide variety of fossils.
 2. Describe and provide examples of fossil distributional patterns and their significance.
 3. Support a hypothesis or theory based on fossil evidence.
 4. Show an understanding of how the principles of Biostratigraphy are used to interpret environmental changes.
 5. Show an understanding of the mechanisms of evolution.
 6. Show an understanding of how fossils can be reconstructed to obtain a picture of ancient environments.
 7. Describe the use of trace fossils to determine the age of rocks.

P. Course content:

1. Defining fossils

- a. Fossilization types
 b. Taxonomy, classification, nomenclature, and systematics
 c. Taphonomic theory and examples
 d. Individuals and populations

2. The fossil record

3. The fossil record

- a. Precambrian organisms
 b. The rise of animals with hard parts
 c. Marine invertebrates of the Paleozoic
 d. Land plants and their origins
 e. Paleozoic vertebrates
 f. Marine invertebrates of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic
 g. Mesozoic vertebrates
 h. Cenozoic vertebrates
 3. What we learn from the record
 a. Biostratigraphy
 b. Paleogeography
 c. The mechanisms of evolution
 d. The record of evolution

e. Paleoenvironmental reconstruction

f. Paleobiogeography

- g. Fossils and sedimentary rocks**
- h. Trace fossils**

Q. Method of instruction:

The course will involve 2 hours/week of direct lecture, 2 hours/week of discussion, and 2 hours/week of fieldwork.