

GEOL 1404 — Historical Geology

Frank Phillips College

General Course Information

Credit Hours: 4

Prerequisite

Completion of GEOL 1403 with a grade of C or better.

Course Description

A comprehensive survey of the history of life and major events in the physical development of Earth as interpreted from rocks and fossils. Laboratory activities will introduce methods used by scientists to interpret the history of life and major events in the physical development of Earth from rocks and fossils.

THECB Approval Number 40.0601.54 03

Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Core Objectives Required for Life and Physical Sciences Courses

Courses in this category focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method.

Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills** – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Teamwork** – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe how the application of the scientific method has led to our current understanding of Earth history.
2. Explain the historical development of Geology as a science and how it was influenced by early interpretations of fossils and the theory of evolution.
3. Communicate how principles of relative and numerical age dating have been used to develop the Geologic Time Scale.
4. Describe the processes involved in the formation and differentiation of the Earth and identify major milestones in the physical evolution of the planet.
5. Identify the major milestones in the evolution of life from its initial inorganic stages, through development of the major animal and plant groups, to mass extinctions.
6. Explain how rocks and fossils are used to interpret ancient environments.
7. Identify the major tectonic events in the geologic evolution of North America.
8. Classify and interpret depositional environments using sedimentary rocks and fossils.
9. Taxonomically classify samples of geologically important fossil groups and use them to interpret the age of rocks on the Geologic Time Scale.
10. Apply relative and numerical age-dating techniques to construct geologic histories including the correlation of stratigraphic sections.
11. Reconstruct past continental configurations.
12. Integrate multiple types of data to interpret Earth history.

Methods of Evaluation

Test Grades	35%
Lab Grades	25%
Daily Grades/Lab & Lecture	40%

Grading scale: A = 100 -90; B=89–80; C=79-70; D=69-60; F=59 and below.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Students attending Frank Phillips College are expected to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, collusion (working with anyone else to produce work for which you take credit without the professor's permission), utilizing resources such as books and notes for a test without the professor's permission, and plagiarism is considered a serious offense and may result in disciplinary actions including:

- A grade of 0 for the test or assignment
- A semester grade of F for the course
- Administrative withdrawal from the course
- Academic suspension
- ***Faculty members have the right to assign a failing grade to a student who is guilty of academic dishonesty at any point during a semester. Faculty members may prohibit a student from dropping a course when academic dishonesty is

discovered. However, if a student has dropped the course in accordance with the rules and dates applied to dropping a course and prior to the discovery of academic dishonesty, the grade of W will stand. Students currently enrolled in a course and students who have completed a course (A, B, C, D, CT, and I) may have a grade changed to an F if academic dishonesty is discovered. The faculty member must notify the student of the change to the final grade within one week of facilitating the change. The student will have the opportunity to appeal the final grade change according to the college policy stated in the catalog.

Class Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to attend class in accordance with requirements of the course as established by the instructor.

Students will be excused from class without penalty when either representing the college in an approved activity or having an approved reason for not attending. Reasons for absences must be approved by the instructor of the course. These exceptions do not relieve the student of the responsibility of making up the missed work as designated by the instructor concerned.

Students who enroll in one or more college-preparatory course(s) because of TSI deficiency will be administratively withdrawn from all classes if the course in which they are excessively absent is their only preparatory course. For a student enrolled in more than one preparatory course, the student may be dropped from only the course affected by absences.

Any student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day, provided that proper notification of the absence is given to the instructor of the course missed. The student should notify the instructor within the first fifteen (15) days of the semester that he or she intends to be absent on the specified holy day.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices Procedure:

Cell phones and electronic devices in the classroom create a distraction for both students and faculty. Cell phones are also considered suspicious during test taking. Therefore, Frank Phillips College outlines the procedure for handling cell phone usage in a classroom as follows:

1. First Offense: the student will be warned verbally by the instructor to turn off the cell phone or electronic device or by appropriate administrative personnel at distance sites. The instructor will make a notation of the infraction.
2. Second Offense: the student will be asked to leave the class period for the day and will receive zeroes for any work done in class on that day; a student receiving instruction through remote connection at an off-campus site will be required to attend the class face to face in Borger from this class date forward.

3. Third Offense: the student will be administratively withdrawn from the class in which the infraction occurred and will receive no refund for the class.

Students should leave the college's main number with an appropriate contact in case of an emergency.

Borger: (806) 457-4200, ext. 0 or 886-5047 after hours

Perryton: (806) 648-1450

Dalhart: (806) 244-7669

Grievance Policy

If you have a dispute concerning your grade or policies in this class, it is your responsibility to FIRST contact the instructor, either by e-mail or in person, to discuss the matter. Should things remain unresolved after this initial contact, please follow the procedures described in the Academic Policies section of the Frank Phillips College Catalog. In the vast majority of cases, the matter can be resolved at the instructor/student level, and learning to communicate your concerns in a civilized manner is part of the college experience.

Important Information

Frank Phillips College is a Microsoft Office Campus. You must submit your electronic assignments in Microsoft Office programs only. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you may use one of the computer lab sites on campus for your class work.

Scans/Or Core Competencies That Will Be Addressed in the Class

Resources:

Allocates Time
Allocates Money
Allocates Material & Facility Resources

Interpersonal:

Participates as a Member of a Team
Teaches Others
Serves Clients/Customers
Exercises Leadership
Negotiates to Arrive at a Decision
Works with Cultural Diversity

Technology:

Selects Technology
Applies Technology
Maintains & Troubleshoots Technology

Basic Skills:

Reading
Writing
Arithmetic
Mathematics
Listening & Speaking

Information:

Acquires & Evaluates Information
Organizes & Maintains Information
Uses Computers to Process Information

Thinking Skills:

Creative Thinking
Decision Making
Problem Solving
Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye
Knowing How to Learn
Reasoning

Systems:

Understands Systems
Monitors & Corrects Performance
Improves & Designs Systems

Personal Qualities:

Responsibility
Self-Esteem
Sociability
Self-Management
Integrity/Honesty