

GEOL 5101 Graduate Seminar
Fall 2016
Office hours MW 10-11, TR 8:30 – 9:30

Instructor: Dr. Urbanczyk
Office: WSB 320

Course Description: According to the catalog, the course deals with modern fields of research in the geosciences.

This semester we will review the theory of plate tectonics and the impact of volcanism on society by reading “Krakatoa” (Simon Winchester). The book provides an excellent review of the eruption of Krakatoa in 1883. We will read sections of the book on a weekly bases and diverge to cover specific topics mentioned in the book. The class will meet in a round table format

Expected Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will apply critical reasoning and problem solving skills to:

- Understand the history of the development of the theory of plate tectonics
- Understand the structure of the earth and the driving force for plate motion
- Understand the generation of magmas in different tectonic settings
- Understand the types of volcanoes related to different tectonic settings and the impact of historic eruptions on society and climate

Assessment: Assessment will be based upon attendance (25%), class participation (25%) and quality of final presentation (50%).

Method of Instruction: The class will meet once per week on Wednesday from 12 to 12:50.

Class Attendance Policy: Attendance is required.

The final grade scheme is based upon the standard 90-100 = A, 80-90 = B, 70-80 = C, 60-70 = D, and <60 = F.

Conduct: Students are expected to observe the University's Code of Student Conduct (see Student Handbook, <http://www.sulross.edu/pages/3633.asp>). **Please turn OFF all cellular phones, IPODs, MP3s, etc.**

Disability: “It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator in Ferguson Hall, Room 112, or call (432) 837-8203.”