

GEOL 5101 Graduate Seminar
Fall 2020, WSB 223, 1-1:50
Office hours MW 9-10, TR 11-12

Instructor: Dr. Urbanczyk
Office: WSB 320

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

We will meet the first class day and choose a topic for the semester.

We will pick from:

1. A review of the geology of North America accomplished by reading “Annals of the Former World” (John McPhee). This is actually 5 books: Basin and Range, In Suspect Terrain, Rising from the Plains, Assembling California, and Crossing the Craton. These books provide an excellent review of geology, plate tectonics, petrology and the overall geologic history of North America. 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.

or
2. A review of the volcanic history of west Texas and the changes in thought about the origins of them. AKA “Trans Pecos Volcanic Field”, or “Trans Pecos Magmatic Province”. We will start with an introductory review of basic igneous petrology, followed by an overview of the regional volcanoes. Then we will discuss individual volcanoes. Literature will include original work by Hill and Udden and continue to Maxwell and others, Barker, Henry, Cepeda, Parker, ... all the way to Urbanczyk and White and more!

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.”