

## GEOL 5304 – Correlation

Fall - 2022

**Section:** 001

**Lecture Times:** T: 6-8:50 pm

**Instructor:** Dr. Tom Shiller

**Office:** WSB 319

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday, 2-5:00 pm; Thursday, 3:30-5:00 pm; or by appointment

**e-mail:** thomas.shiller@sulross.edu

**Course Purpose:** Geologic correlation involves connecting (correlating) rock units. A variety of methods are used in correlation, involving the physical and chemical properties of rock units, as well as fossils. This course will explore each one of these methods in detail and will incorporate modern, practical techniques of graphic correlation and biostratigraphy.

### Grading System:

4 Exams = 60% (15% each); 2 Homeworks = 20% (10% each); 10 Quizzes = 10% (1% each); Field Trip = 10%

**Letter Grading:** Final course grade will be based on a percentage of the total points as follows:

90.00-100% = A

80.00-89.90% = B

70.00-79.90% = C

60.00-69.90% = D

Less than 60.00% = F

### Homework:

There will be two take-home assignments given during the semester requiring independent research, critical thinking, and technical writing. Assignments will be given **during class** and will not be available on Blackboard. A due date will be given on the day homework is assigned. Late projects will be accepted at 50% of your earned point value by 6 pm. on the due date (including immediately after class); 25% value by the end of the following day, and 0% after that.

### Exams:

There will be four exams covering sections discussed following the previous exam. These exams will comprise primarily short answer and essay questions. You may **not** use your notes for exams. Special arrangements will need to be made for make-up exams. Exams will be curved at the professor's discretion.

### Quizzes:

There will be ten quizzes administered during the semester (no more than one per week). Quizzes will cover material pertaining to the previous week's lectures. Quizzes will be given during the first 15 minutes of lecture and will count for 1% of the total grade (each).

### Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction to Correlation, Stratigraphy and Correlation

Week 2: Stratigraphy and Correlation

Week 3: GSSPs and the Geologic Time Scale

Week 4: Exam 1, Defining Geologic Units

Week 5: Defining Geologic Units, Lithostratigraphic Correlation

Week 6: Lithostratigraphic Correlation, Index Fossils

Week 7: Index Fossils,

Week 8: Exam 2, Biostratigraphic Correlation

Week 9: Chemostratigraphy, Chemostratigraphic Correlation

Week 10: Chemostratigraphic Correlation, Seismic Stratigraphy and Correlation

Week 11: Seismic Stratigraphy and Correlation

Week 12: Exam 3, Intro to Graphic Correlations

Week 13: Graphic Correlations

Week 14: Graphic Correlations, Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 15: Graphic Correlations

Week 16: **Final Exam (9/6, 6:00 pm)**

**Attendance and Make-up Policy:**

The only acceptable excuses for missing class are those due to illness, approved Sul Ross sanctioned events, and observation of religious holidays. All excused absences **must** be documented on paper. Please inform the professor at least 1 week prior to missing class (e-mail, note on office door, etc....). With an appropriate excuse, you must make up missed quizzes/exams **within 10 days** of the last day of the absence or you have failed to meet your course responsibilities and will receive a zero.

**Classroom Conduct:**

The Student handbook states under Student Misconduct, number 21, "Such prohibition includes disorderly classroom conduct that obstructs, interferes with, inhibits and/or disrupts teaching and/or classroom activities." Behavior which is included in this category: 1) persistent talking to ones' neighbors during lecture, 2) coming to class late or leaving early, 3) the use of cellular phones or MP3 devices in the classroom. **CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF IN CLASS.** This includes texting, emailing and social networking. (*If you are a member of an EMS/VFD group or have a child in day care and they must be able to reach you, let me know and we will discuss.*) Offenders of this policy will be asked once to stop and 5 points will be taken from their grade. If it occurs a second time, the offender will be instructed to leave the classroom, and there will be a meeting with the Dean of Student Life. If there are further incidents, UDPS will be called and offenders will be physically ejected from the classroom and will likely be expelled from the University.

**CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED:**

Any student caught cheating on an exam or quiz will receive an automatic **zero** on that assignment. If a student is caught cheating second time, additional disciplinary actions will be taken. Any student plagiarizing information on an assignment will receive an automatic zero for that assignment.

**Students Needing Special Accommodations:**

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

**Geology MS SLO's:**

1. The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information in the area of advanced sedimentary geology.
2. The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information in the area of advanced igneous/metamorphic processes, structure and tectonics.
3. The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information to field and lab research and techniques.
5. The student will be able to communicate diverse bodies of Geologic information through the standard scientific format of an oral presentation based on a written paper.

**Geology MS marketable skills:**

- \* The student will be able to conduct field work.
- \* The student will be able to use field equipment and lab resources.
- \* The student will be able to use library resources.
- \* The student will be able to communicate in written and oral format.