

GEOL 4311 – Stratigraphic Analysis

Spring - 2023

Section: VMC

Lecture Times: T: 4:00-6:50 pm

Room: WSB 101

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:

Stratigraphic Analysis will cover advanced topics in stratigraphy with a focus on basin analysis. The course will cover facies analysis, sequence stratigraphy, sedimentology, and basin dynamics.

Research Projects:

Short research projects will be assigned throughout the semester pertaining to topics discussed in lecture. Students will give a brief presentation in class and turn in a research paper.

Field Trip Report:

There will be one weekend field trip during the semester (date TBD). Following the field trip, students will write a short report outlining their observations.

Exams:

There will be four total exams covering sections discussed following the previous exam. These exams will comprise primarily short answer and essay questions.

Points:

4 Exams = 40% (10% each)

Research Project Presentations = 25% (5% each)

Research Project Reports = 25% (5% each)

Field Trip Report = 10%

Your accumulated grades will be recorded on Blackboard in the Grade Center.

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

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. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of class each day. Attendance is expected, but does not count towards the final grade. Students with 2 or less unexcused absences may drop an exam grade. **Arriving 10 minutes or later to class will be considered an unexcused absence.**

University policy dictates that your instructor can drop you with an F from the course after 6 absences from TR/MW classes or after 9 absences from MWF classes.

Student athletes: You are given a full week to return the completed documentation: your progress (attendance and grade) to your coach, so when you present that card to me, I will take it and return it to you the following class

period. Alternatively, you can bring it to my listed office hours and I will look up your progress then. I will not complete them at the beginning or end of class. No exceptions.

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 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.

Lecture Schedule for the Spring 2023 Semester:

Part I: Introduction and Review of Stratigraphic Analysis

Part II: Sedimentary Facies and Depositional Environments

Part III: Basin Analysis

Part IV: Sequence Stratigraphy

Final Exam: Monday, May 3, 8-10:00 am

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

