

## GEOL 5328 – Advanced Sedimentation

Fall - 2025

**Lecture Times:** MWF: 9:00-9:50 am

**Room:** WSB 210

**Instructor:** Dr. Tom Shiller

**Office:** WSB 319

**Office Hours:** M-F: 10-11:00 am; or by appointment

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

**Course Description:** the chief focus of this course is to detail the processes of forming, transporting, depositing, and lithifying sediment. We will therefore cover topics of weathering/erosion, transport mechanisms, depositional processes, and post-depositional processes.

### MS Geology Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

- The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information in the area of advanced sedimentary geology.
- The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information in the areas of advanced igneous/metamorphic processes, structure and tectonics.
- The student will be able to apply diverse bodies of Geologic information to field and lab research and techniques.
- 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.

**Exams:** There will be four total 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.

**In-class Activities and Homework:** There will be in-class activities and homework assignments given throughout the semester.

**Report:** Students will be required to write a short report to be turned in near the end of the semester.

### Points:

4 Exams = 60%

Activities/Homework = 20%

Report = 20%

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.

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

**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.

**Use of A.I.:** any work submitted by students for this course generated by generative A.I. will be consider plagiarism/cheating.

**ADA Statement:** SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the 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. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartz Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director or Ronnie Harris, LPC, Counselor, at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartz@sulross.edu or ronnie.harris@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

**Lecture Schedule for the Fall 2025 Semester:**

*This calendar is subject to change with prior notice, at the instructor's discretion.*

Week	Lecture Topics
1	Review of sedimentology (weathering/erosion, types of sediment, basic processes)
2	Labor Day (no class M), Chemical and physical weathering processes
3	Sediment provenance
4	Sediment transport, Exam 1
5	Review of depositional processes
6	Gravity-driven sedimentation
7	Lacustrine sedimentation Exam 2
8	Fluvial sedimentation, GSA field trip week (no class W or F)
9	Fluvial sedimentation continued,
10	Coastal sedimentation, Exam 3
11	Clastic marine sedimentation
12	Carbonate production
13	Post depositional processes (cementation, diagenesis, fossilization)
14	Post depositional processes cont., Thanksgiving Holiday (no class W or F)
15	Finals begin (FINAL EXAM: _____)

**Geology marketable skills:**

- \* The student will be able to conduct field work.
- \* The student will be able to use field equipment.
- \* The student will be able to use lab equipment.
- \* The student will be able to use library resources.

**Student Responsibilities Statement:** All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.