Course Syllabus for Fall, 2019

Overview:

*The Age of Dinosaurs* is an introduction to Natural History for non-science majors. The course focuses on current scientific theories and controversies surrounding the evolution and extinction of dinosaurs. In order to appreciate these issues, the course presents an introduction to Earth history, plate tectonics, surface geology, sedimentary processes, fossilization, and related topics. It also presents an introduction to the theory of evolution, an overview of the diversity of Life on Earth, along with a discussion on how modern scientists study the relationships among organisms and interpret the evolutionary history of Life. The geological and evolutionary processes that have affected the history of dinosaurs are the focus throughout the course. In the end, you will learn how Earth history and Life history are intricately intertwined, and how scientists are using their knowledge of the past to predict what's ahead for us all.

Instructor:

Dr. Timothy Rowe  
Office: Geology 3.216E  
Office Hours:  
Tuesday, 11:00-12:00  
Thursday, 11:00-12:00

or by appointment

e-mail: rowe@utexas.edu

Course Web Site Homepage: [http://www.geo.utexas.edu/302d/](http://www.geo.utexas.edu/302d/)

The course website site will be your source for information on the class schedule for all lectures, assignments, exams, and quizzes.

Lectures: GEO 2.324, Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-11:00am
Labs: GEO 3.202; see catalog; your lab schedule is listed by the unique number of the section in which you are registered

Required Study Materials (Electronic versions will be distributed at no cost during the first Lab section bring your laptop or a thumbdrive):


2) Multimedia: The Age of Dinosaurs CD-ROM, by Timothy Rowe, Kyoko Kishi, John W. Merck, Jr., and Matthew Colbert, 1998, W. H. Freeman and Co., New York. This software will be distributed at no cost during the first lab section.

Laboratory/Discussion: Weekly Lab sections are a required part of the course. The labs provide an opportunity to examine specimens, as well as a forum for group discussion of issues raised in the course. Starting Week 2 of the semester, quizzes will be given in Lab every week.