1-2014

GEO 595.01: Special Topics -- Advanced Glaciology

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Advanced Glaciology (Geosciences 595) – **Spring 2014**

Meeting
Thursdays 3:45-5:30 PM, ISB 456

Instructor information
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Course objective
The primary goal of this course is to gain in-depth understanding of processes, research methods, and recent scientific breakthroughs related to glaciers and ice sheets. In contrast to a survey course, we will go deep into a few specific topics. This course is only appropriate for graduate students conducting advanced research related to glaciology.

Course Design and Student Responsibilities

There will be four course activities and we will divide our time between them. We will look for opportunities for overlap between the focus areas.

1) Review and discussion of student/faculty research related to glaciology.
Most students have research projects that have some component related to glaciology. This is an opportunity to have the entire group spend some time reading and discussing a key topic related to your work.

2) Review and assess recent scientific advances in glaciology.
We will perform peer review of recently published works in glaciology. The review will consist of a written evaluation and a panel discussion. Each week we will address a different topic and set of associated publications. The entire group will read a common paper and perform a scientific peer review of the article. One group member will take the lead on conducting the group review. This will involve facilitating the discussion and most likely, reading and presenting other related publications which aid the discussion. The facilitator will write a group summary of the main conclusions of the panel review.

4) Group Research project.
We will design and execute a group research project. The topic and research plan will stem from brainstorming sessions. Possible ideas include analysis of all basal water pressure data, or analysis of ice temperature data.

Grading
Letter grades will be assigned. Grades are based on level and quality of participation. Equal weight will be given to performance in the different course focus areas.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321