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GEOL 106.01: The History of Life

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GEOLOGY 106 HISTORY OF LIFE
FALL 2003

Instructor: George Stanley E-mail: fossil@selway.umt.edu Office: SC302 Tel: 243-5693

Required Text: Cowen: THE HISTORY OF LIFE

Office Hours (fill in): _____

DATE	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNED
Sept. 03 05	Introduction to class and the new view of life Darwin and evolution	Gould, 1994 Pojeta and Springer
08 10 12	The origin of life Earth's earliest rocks and fossils Earth's earliest rocks and fossils (continued)	chapter 1 chapter 2 chapter 2
15 17 19	The evolution of sex Earth's first metazoans The great explosion of life	chapter 3 Nash
22 24 26	The Burgess Shale The Chengjiang biota of China Discussion Group I	Conway-Morris, 1997 Hagadorn, 2002 [assigned readings]
29 Oct. 01 03	Discussion Group I (continued) Effects of a changing world First vertebrates	[assigned readings] chapter 5 chapter 7

06	Life moves to land	chapter 8
08	Life moves to land (continued)	chapter 8
10	Amphibians and reptiles	chapter 9
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13	Amphibians and reptiles (continued)	chapter 9
15	Early reptiles & body heating	chapter 10
17	Triassic takeover [Mid-term handed out]	chapter 11

	20	Dinosaurs--age of reptiles [MID-TERM DUE BACK TYPED]	chapter 12
	22	Warm-blooded reptiles	chapter 13
	24	New views on dinosaurs	[assigned readings]
Oct.	27	Discussion Group II	[assigned readings]
	29	The evolution of flight	chapter 14
	31	What killed the dinosaurs	chapter 18
Nov.	03	Mass extinction	chapter 6
	05	Discussion Group III	[assigned readings]
	07	Discussion Group III (continued)	[assigned readings]
	10	The rise of mammals	chapter 15
	12	Why flowers are beautiful	chapter 17
	14	Cenozoic mammals	chapter 19
	17	Cenozoic mammals (continued)	chapter 19
	19	Geography and evolution	chapter 20
	21	Plate tectonics and life	Nance et al.
	24	Exotic terranes and fossils	Stanley + Jones et al.
	26	NO CLASS MEETINGBTHANKSGIVING	
	28	NO CLASS MEETINGBTHANKSGIVING	
Dec.	01	Evolution of primates	chapter 21
	03	How we became human	chapter 22
	05	How we became human (continued)	chapter 22
	08	Ice Ages and climate change	chapter 23
	10	Humans today and the last extinction	chapter 24
	12	Review of the history of life	
DEC.	18	FINAL EXAM (comprehensive)	8:00-10:00 a.m.

GRADING BASIS FOR COURSE

Attendance is required as is reading of assignments and participation in group discussions. You will be graded as a group for the group discussions (see CLASS GROUP DISCUSSIONS).

First exam (take home)	30%
Unannounced quizzes on the reading assignments	19%
Participation in group discussions	21%
Final exam (comprehensive)	30%