

Syllabus for 12:201 Geoscience Seminar Series (1 s.h.) Fall 2012

Course Coordinator and Dept. Chair: Dr. M. K. Reagan, 121-TH, 335-1818, mark-reagan@uiowa.edu; office hours (in 121C TH): Tuesday, 1:00-4:00 PM and by appointment

Course goals and objectives: to provide the breadth of learning requirement for graduate students in the Geoscience Department by attending talks given by distinguished invited outside speakers. Students also will gain exposure to ongoing controversies and new developments in a broad range of subdisciplines of Geoscience.

Class meetings: usually 4-5pm on Fridays in 125TH. Speakers and topics will vary from week to week, and will be announced in the department newsletter, as well as on the department web site. The current speakers list is available on the calendar at the Geoscience Department's web-site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~geology/>.

Course expectations: Students registered in 12:201 must attend at least 9 presentations in the departmental seminar series and submit a one-page summary of each of these lectures in the ICON drop box for the course. Students also are required to sign the signup sheet in the front of the lecture hall at each lecture they attend. Finally, students are encouraged to attend as many departmental seminars as they can to augment the breadth of their knowledge in the geological sciences.

Tests, Assignments: There are no tests or required readings for this course. The only assignment is that students must compose and submit the 9 one-page summaries of lectures they attend. Be sure to include your name, the name of the speaker, date and title of the talk. Summaries should focus on the contents of the presentations. Note: the summaries must be submitted within 5 working days of the attended seminar lecture in the appropriate ICON drop box. Late summaries will not be accepted except for documented illness, mandatory religious obligations, or other unavoidable circumstances or University activities.

Substitutions: For most participants, seminars in other departments or other venues may be substituted for up to 3 of the 9 required seminars in our department with permission of Dr. Reagan. If a student is registered at the University of Iowa, but off-campus for a significant proportion of the semester, additional substitutions may be allowed. In either case, to request such a substitution, please email Dr. Reagan at least 3 working days in advance with a short description of the alternative (including the title), the speaker, the location of the venue and the date to determine if it is satisfactory according to the course goals and objectives. All substitution requests must be submitted by the student and approved by Dr. Reagan at least two weeks before the end of the semester. Dr. Reagan will endeavor to respond to substitution requests within 72 hours. Acceptance or denial of a substitution request will be made by Dr. Reagan based on whether, at the time of the request, that the compiled seminars attended by that student have a depth and breadth of subject matter in the geosciences that is approximately equivalent to the depth and

breadth of the scheduled department seminars. If seminars of sufficient breadth cannot be found at an off-campus student's location, then alternative arrangements may be made with the DEO, such as reading and summarizing published works by one or more of the Department Seminar speakers. As with departmental seminars, the summaries of the substituted seminars must be submitted within five working days of the attended seminar in the appropriate ICON drop box. Summaries of published works must be submitted within 10 working days of their approval. *Late summaries will not be accepted except for documented illness, mandatory religious obligations, or other unavoidable circumstances or University activities.*

Grading: Students are graded as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory on the basis of attendance and submission of all nine summaries.

Department of Geoscience Syllabus Information:

Department Office: 121 Trowbridge Hall

Telephone: 319-335-1818

Department Chair (DEO): Prof. M.K. Reagan

DEO Office: 121C TH

DEO Telephone: 319-335-1820

DEO Email: geology-deo@uiowa.edu

Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (*Operations Manual*, [III.15.2](#). k.11.)

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See www.uiowa.edu/~sds/ for more information.

Academic Honesty

All CLAS students have, in essence, agreed to the College's Code of Academic Honesty: "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the IOWA Challenge. I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced around the fifth week of the semester by the Registrar. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the dates and times of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS [Student Academic Handbook](#).)

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety [web site](#).

Rights and responsibilities in the classroom

The College's statement on student rights and responsibilities can be found at:

<http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/x/>.