



Course Syllabus: Life/Earth Science McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Lecture – GNSC 1104 Section 201, 21A

Spring 2025

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00-11:50 am | Dillard 345 Labs: Friday 1:00-2:50 pm | Bridwell 308A

Course D2L Site

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Steven J. Rosscoe Office: Pierce Hall, Room 204 (Bolin Hall 101A – Later in the Semester) Office hours: MF 10-10:50 am & 12-12:50 pm, W 10-10:50 am| By Appointment |<u>Zoom Meeting Link</u> Office phone: (940) 397-4448 (Note: E-mail is the preferred method of communication) E-mail: steven.rosscoe@msutexas.edu

Course Description

A basic course designed to introduce students to the scientific methods and topics in biology and earth science. Creditable only for students seeking grades 1-6, 4-8, and Kinesiology/Physical Education teacher certification. This course may not be substituted to fulfill science core requirement for other majors.

Course Learning Objectives

The successful completion of this course will be evaluated around the following course learning objectives. Each of these course learning objectives include aspects of both content knowledge and skills development. Students will:

- 1. Develop an understanding of the Earth as a system composed of multiple interconnected subsystems that intricately link Earth and life.
- 2. Investigate the active processes that shape the Earth and the materials that the Earth is made up of.
- 3. Learn the fundamental characteristics, requirements, and processes of living organisms.
- 4. Discuss how life changes over time through natural selection and how species can develop over time through evolution.

5. Demonstrate the interrelationships between different forms of life and between life and the environment within ecosystems.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

<u>Textbooks:</u>

- Required Textbooks
 - Hazen, Robert M. & Trefil, James. 2009. Science Matters: Achieving Scientific Literacy. Anchor Books, 2nd Edition. ISBN 978-0-307-45458-4.

Required Computer Applications:

- Microsoft Office: Word, PowerPoint Free Access to Microsoft Office 365
 - Required for completion of group project and laboratory activities.
 - University computer labs also have access to the complete versions of these applications (the online free versions are somewhat reduced in their functionality).
- PDF Reader
 - PDFs are used to provide some course materials; a browser PDF reader or Adobe Acrobat will be necessary to view them.

Required Laboratory Materials:

The following materials will be required for successful laboratory work this semester.

- Camera (cell phone camera is perfect)
- Pencils (mechanical, sketching pencils if you'd like)
- Colored Pencils (a simple basic color set is fine)

Grading

The formal grade for this course is determined by your performance on lecture exams, laboratory exams, laboratory activities, content quizzes and a group project. You earn points throughout the semester for each assignment completed based on how well you complete the assignment. At the end of the semester the total number of points you have earned is divided by the total number of points available to determine your final grade. Any changes to the grading scheme caused by changes to the course schedule or timing changes will be posted officially in D2L.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment type. For more details see assignment descriptions below.

| Assignments (Quantity) | Points |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Lecture Examinations (2) | 200 |
| Laboratory Examinations (2) | 200 |
| Lab Activities (10) | 200 |
| Quizzes (5/6) | 100 |
| Group Project | 100 |
| Total Points | 800 |

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Table 2: Total points for final grade.

| Grade | Points |
|-------|---------------|
| А | 540 and up |
| В | 480 to 539 |
| С | 420 to 479 |
| D | 360 to 419 |
| F | Less than 360 |

Lecture Examinations (Online)

During the semester there will be one midterm lecture examination and one final lecture examination given online through the D2L course management system (100 points each). These examinations are given at the end of each of our major course units. The midterm examination will cover the unit on Earth Science while the final examination will cover the unit on Life Science. The examinations will consist of 70 multiple choice questions (1 point each) and three short essay questions (10 points each).

In general, the multiple-choice questions will focus on vocabulary and key concepts while the short essay questions will ask you to provide explanations or describe processes. Short essay questions will require a minimum of seven complete and grammatically correct sentences to earn full credit. You will have 120 minutes to complete each examination. Exams will close and auto submit after 120 minutes.

These examinations are open book. You may use your textbook and your class notes only. You may not use websites, AI, other physical resources, or other people when completing the examination. Fair warning, if you try to use the web (which is not allowed) there are a ton of people who love science but know nothing about it. They often sound authoritative and are absolutely wrong.

| Examination | Due Date | Time Due |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Midterm Examination | Friday 03/21/2025 | 11:59 pm |
| Final Examination | Monday 05/12/2025 | 11:59 pm |

Table 3: The table below shows due date for each exam.

Laboratory Examinations (In Class)

The Earth Science Laboratory Exam (100 points) will cover all content in labs 1-5. There will be a series of activities and questions for you to complete during the laboratory period in which the examination is scheduled (see course schedule and due date list later in the syllabus). The Life Science Laboratory Exam (100 points) will cover all content in labs 6-10. There will be a series of activities and questions for you to complete. You will have the entire laboratory period to complete this examination. You may use your graded labs and all lab handouts when taking the lab examinations. Lab exams start at the start of the lab period, and you have the entire time to complete the exam. Lab exams cannot be made up as they are specimen and activity-based exams.

Lab Activities (In Lab)

The laboratory portion of the course requires the completion of 10 laboratory activities. Most laboratory periods will begin with an introduction of important materials and procedures (usually about a half hour) with a laboratory activity to be completed in the lab. There will typically be questions

to be answered or a task to complete after you complete the activity. The lab worksheet is due at the start of the next laboratory period. Labs will be graded and returned the following week. Each lab is worth 20 points.

*This semester lab activities are not in Bolin Hall due to renovations. This will make it very challenging to do make-up labs. In fact, there may be some labs that are impossible to make up. So, do your very best to be at every lab in Bridwell 308A on time and ready to go!

Quizzes (Online)

There will be six online quizzes completed throughout the semester on the topics we cover in the lecture portion of the course. These quizzes will consist of twenty multiple choice questions, each worth one point. Quizzes will be released on Fridays at 6:00 pm. They will be due by the following Monday at 11:59 pm. You will have two attempts to complete the quiz, and the quiz will be 30 minutes in length. At the end of the semester only the best five quiz grades will be counted toward your final grade, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Taking these quizzes should help you to prepare for your midterm and final examinations as well.

| Release Date/Time | Due Date/Time | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Friday 02/07/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 02/10/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| Friday 02/21/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 02/24/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| Friday 03/07/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 03/17/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| Friday 03/28/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 03/31/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| Friday 04/11/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 04/14/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| Friday 05/02/2025, 6:00 pm | Monday 05/05/2025, 11:59 pm | | |
| | Release Date/Time Friday 02/07/2025, 6:00 pm Friday 02/21/2025, 6:00 pm Friday 03/07/2025, 6:00 pm Friday 03/28/2025, 6:00 pm Friday 04/11/2025, 6:00 pm | | |

Table 4: Quiz Information for the Semester

Group Project (Outside of Class Time)

In both the fields of science and education collaboration with your peers is key to success. We all have our specializations and things we are good at, but to really achieve any educational or scientific goal we need to seek and use the skills and abilities of others as well. As such, in this class, you will work in small groups to complete a group project. In the course, you will be learning lots of information through both a theoretical or lecture-style approach and hands-on or laboratory style. Each group will select a topic covered in the early part of the course (Earth Science) and develop a series of activities that could be used to teach a third to fifth grade group of students about that topic. This will result in a presentation of your lesson plan and a demonstration of the activities you develop. These presentations will be submitted as video presentations in D2L. You will need to evaluate your participation as well as the participation of your peers in this project. More details will be released on this project before spring break. The final presentation and group evaluations will be due on May 9th, 2025, by 11:59 pm.

Late Work

This is a course where each assignment has substantial lead time before its due date. ***No late work will be accepted.** Missed labs and examinations may be made up with a legal, paper-documented, excuse.

Make-Up Work/Tests

For legal, paper-documented excuses make-ups for labs and examinations can be completed. Makeup work should be arranged for in advance wherever possible. The instructor will give you a new deadline that is reasonable for the course timeline. ***No make-up work (lecture or lab) will be allowed beyond 10 days past the original deadline.**

The group project cannot be made-up as it requires active participation in the group throughout the semester. While your group should work with your schedule to include you and reschedule meetings due to illness, if you do not participate at all you will not be able to make-up the assignment.

<u>Note</u>: You must complete the assignments, laboratories, and examinations presented in this syllabus. No substitute assignments will be allowed to compensate for poor performance or missed deadlines.

Instructor Class Policies

The following policies are the policies that are integral for our successful completion of the course and should be read thoroughly. If you have any questions, please see the instructor.

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is considered cheating, collusion, and plagiarism. Any unauthorized assistance during the completion of assignments, using on aids beyond those authorized for an assignment, or the use of other people or services to complete assignments is considered cheating. Working with others in a way that is not authorized by the instructor to complete assignments is considered to be collusion. Plagiarism is the use of another person's materials (by paraphrase or direct quotation) without giving them full and clear acknowledgement. The use of material prepared by another person or agency selling term papers and academic materials is also considered plagiarism.

The use of any artificial intelligence (AI) in completing course assignments is NOT allowed. AI in this sense is any technology that summarizes, writes, or answers questions on its own. Recent court rulings have allowed lawsuits to go forward against Chat GPT and other AI operators because it directly plagiarizes the use of others. College is about you learning to write, you developing your voice, and you learning how to process, summarize, and properly cite information. Any use of AI is considered a violation of this academic honesty policy.

If a student is caught cheating, colluding, or plagiarizing on any assignment the assignment grade will automatically be a zero. Two or more violations will result in failure of the course.

Classroom Civility (IMPORTANT)

Learning, especially in science, can be a very challenging process. Learning often requires putting yourself out there and being vulnerable. Science also happens to be at the forefront of information which may conflict with personal beliefs. Your beliefs are yours and nothing will change that, though those beliefs may not get you credit on the exam. We are focused on science and what understandings have been developed in the field. Additionally, no scientist thinks the same way as every other scientist. To develop the best understandings of our universe, we must seek input from all people in the field.

In my classroom, we strive to create an environment where everyone is respected and valued for who they are. We are all here together, learning together, and working toward the same goal. This is not a place for hate of any kind. The use of derogatory language, hate speech, or violence is absolutely unacceptable in this classroom and in any setting related to the course. Learn to work with and value all people. Be civil and treat each other with respect. Do your best to listen to each other, in any conversation. Use of derogatory language, hate speech, or violence will result in removal to the classroom or the course.

Dr. Rosscoe (me) is always available to help if you have any concerns or questions about building a positive classroom environment. The campus also has numerous resources related to a safe and welcoming experience at MSU. Also, don't forget the MSU Safety App.

- <u>Title IX Misconduct</u>: Dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, and other forms of sexual misconduct.
- <u>Bias Incident Reporting</u>: Bias and hate incidents related to race, gender, or sexual identity.
- <u>Disability Grievance Procedures</u>: Discrimination on the basis of disability.

COVID-19 and Illnesses

Since COVID-19, classroom health has been a necessary and probably long overdue focus. While there are no longer COVID-19 policies in place by the university the following procedures are scientific best practices. These same principles can be applied to any viral infection (flu, cold, etc.).

- If you become ill and have symptoms, get tested.
- If you are positive for COVID-19, stay home. It's good for your recovery and good for protecting your peers.
- Illness happens and if you absolutely must be in public, wear a mask. Even a cloth mask reduces the chance you will spread the illness to others.
- If you stay home or miss assignments, be sure to get a Doctor's note and excuse. It lets me help you make things up.

In the case of long-term illnesses or medical situations that will prevent you from attending classes regularly, contact the professor (me) as soon as possible. We will work together to make sure that you can succeed, just make sure it's Doctor-documented. I can't do much to help, if I don't know until the day before the semester ends.

Electronic Devices

Use of electronic devices for taking notes is allowed in my classroom. Recording (audio or video) is not allowed unless approved by the instructor for educational purposes. The use of social media or streaming anything is not an appropriate use of technology during class. If your use of technology is non-educational or is being disruptive to your peers, you will be asked to leave.

Course Grade and Grade Bumps

In my courses, a grade is earned by accumulating points throughout the semester. The grade you earn in the course is determined by the number of points you earn through the timely completion of assignments. As such, at the end of the semester, there are no grade bumps given out. Do not ask how or if you can be bumped up to the next letter grade, if you haven't earned the points, you will not be able to get that grade. If you believe there to be an error in the calculation of your grade, whether it is on a specific assignment or the whole course feel free to ask me to re-evaluate and double check. I will do so happily. For specific assignments, be prepared to give me specific reasons you feel the grade is wrong (which wrong answer do you think was right, etc.).

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L learning management system is required in this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Computer Requirements

Taking this course involves the completion of all lecture exams, reading quizzes, and discussions in the course learning management system (D2L). This class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. *Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into D2L.

Inclement Weather Policy

In cases of extreme weather events that delay or close campus and where those delays or closures impact the course:

- If the closure or delay includes lecture meeting time, the lecture will not meet and the lecture schedule for the semester will be modified.
- If the closure or delay includes a laboratory meeting time, the laboratory will not meet and all remaining laboratory meetings for the week will be cancelled to keep the lab sections on the same schedule. Lab due dates and lab quiz dates will be adjusted.
- If due dates are impacted by the delay or closure, they will be rescheduled.
- All changes to the course schedule will be posted, in writing, in D2L.
- NOTE: Because all students do not have equal or reliable access to technology and internet, especially in times of inclement weather, we WILL NOT shift to online in cases of inclement weather.

University Policies and Information

The following information and policies apply to this course. Please read each of these policies and ask your instructor if you have any questions.

Important Dates

- First Day of Classes: January 22nd, 2025
- Last Day to Change Schedule and Late Registration: January 24th, 2025
- Deadline to File for December Graduation: February 17th, 2025
- Spring Break Holiday: March 10th-14th, 2025
- Holiday Break: April 18th, 2025
- Last Day for a Grade of W: April 30th, 2025 (Drops after this date get a grade of F)
- Final Exams Begin: May 12th, 2025

<u>Attendance</u>

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring

accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to <u>Disability Support Services</u>.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <u>Campus Carry Rules and Policies</u>

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit <u>Safety</u> / <u>Emergency Procedures</u>.

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Following the appropriate procedure for grade appeals requires you to speak to your instructor first, so talk to your instructor. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University <u>Undergraduate Catalog</u>.

Lecture Topic Schedule for Spring 2025

The following is the schedule for the lecture topics we will study during the semester. This schedule will vary over the semester as some topics may move quicker or slower than expected. Note: Changes in the course syllabus, procedures, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Readings for lecture topics are listed below the topic for the day.

| Week | Dates | Monday Topic | Wednesday Topic | Friday Topic |
|------|---------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Jan 20 to Jan 24 | No Class Martin Luther King Jr. Day | Course Introduction | Earth Science No Reading |
| 2 | Jan 27 | The Earth in Context | The Earth System | The Physical Earth |
| | to Jan 31 | No Reading | No Reading | No Reading |
| 3 | Feb 03 | Plate Tectonics | Earthquakes | Volcanoes |
| | to Feb 07 | <i>HT Chapter 13</i> | HT Chapter 13 | HT Chapter 13 |
| 4 | Feb 10 | Minerals | Minerals | The Rock Cycle |
| | to Feb 14 | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 | <i>HT Chapter 14</i> |
| 5 | Feb 17 | lgneous Rocks | Sedimentary Rocks | Metamorphic Rocks |
| | to Feb 21 | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 |
| 6 | Feb 24 | Ocean Systems | Stream Systems | Glaciers & Groundwater |
| | to Feb 28 | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 |
| 7 | Mar 03 | The Atmosphere | Weather | Climate |
| | to Mar 07 | <i>HT Chapter 14</i> | HT Chapter 14 | HT Chapter 14 |
| SB | Mar 10 | No Class | No Class | No Class |
| | to Mar 14 | Spring Break Holiday | Spring Break Holiday | Spring Break Holiday |
| 8 | Mar 17 | What is Life? | Characteristics of Life | Life and Earth |
| | to Mar 21 | HT Chapter 15 | HT Chapter 15 | HT Chapter 15 |
| 9 | Mar 24 | Abiogenesis | The Cell | Cellular Developments |
| | to Mar 28 | HT Chapter 15 | HT Chapter 15 | HT Chapter 15 |
| 10 | Mar 31 | Classifying Life | Major Groups of Life | Major Groups of Life |
| | to Apr 04 | <i>HT Chapter 15</i> | HT Chapter 15 | HT Chapter 15 |
| 11 | Apr 07 | Genetic Material | Genes and Alleles | Mutation and Variability |
| | to Apr 11 | HT Chapter 16 | HT Chapter 16 | HT Chapter 16 |
| 12 | Apr 14 | Reproduction | Artificial Selection | No Class |
| | to Apr 18 | HT Chapter 16 | HT Chapter 18 | Holiday Break |
| 13 | Apr 21 | Natural Selection | Speciation | Evolution |
| | to Apr 25 | HT Chapter 18 | HT Chapter 18 | HT Chapter 18 |
| 14 | Apr 28 | Populations (*Online) | Communities (*Online) | Ecosystems |
| | to May 02 | HT Chapter 19 | HT Chapter 19 | HT Chapter 19 |
| 15 | May 05 | Ecosystem Structure | Humans and Ecosystems | Wrap-Up |
| | to May 09 | HT Chapter 19 | HT Chapter 19 | HT Chapter 19 |

*Online lectures on April 28 and April 30 will be provided as video lectures in D2L. Dr. Rosscoe will be in Fort Worth Attending the AAPG Southwest Section Conference. Other online lecture days may be added as the semester progresses due to unforeseen absences.

Laboratory Activity Schedule for Fall 2024

The following is a table of all laboratory activities required for the successful completion of this course. Pre-laboratory readings will be provided in D2L, if required. All laboratory activities are due by 1:00 pm, at the start of the next lab meeting. *NOTICE: Changes in the course syllabus, procedures, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

| Week | Date | Friday Lab (1:00 – 2:50 pm) | Due Date / Time |
|------|--------|---|------------------|
| 1 | Jan 24 | No Laboratory Meeting – First Week of Classes | Nothing Due |
| 2 | Jan 31 | No Laboratory Meeting – Bolin Renovation Delay | Nothing Due |
| 3 | Feb 07 | Lab 01: Measuring Nature | Feb 14 / 1:00 pm |
| 4 | Feb 14 | Lab 02: Minerals and Mineral Properties | Feb 21 / 1:00 pm |
| 5 | Feb 21 | Lab 03: Rocks and the Rock Cycle | Feb 28 / 1:00 pm |
| 6 | Feb 28 | Lab 04: Maps and Orientation | Mar 07 / 1:00 pm |
| 7 | Mar 07 | Lab 05: Topographic Maps and Profiles | Mar 21 / 1:00 pm |
| SB | Mar 14 | No Lab Meetings – Spring Break | Nothing Due |
| 8 | Mar 21 | Midterm Laboratory Examination | Mar 21 / 2:50 pm |
| 9 | Mar 28 | Lab 06: Life and the Fossil Record | Apr 03 / 1:00 pm |
| 10 | Apr 04 | Lab 07: Simple Life and Micropaleontology | Apr 10 / 1:00 pm |
| 11 | Apr 11 | Lab 08: Invertebrates and Invertebrate Paleontology | Apr 25 / 1:00 pm |
| 12 | Apr 18 | No Lab Meetings – Holiday Break | Nothing Due |
| 13 | Apr 25 | Lab 09: Vertebrates and Vertebrate Paleontology | May 02 / 2:00 pm |
| 14 | May 02 | Lab 10: Plants and Paleobotany | May 09 / 2:00 pm |
| 15 | May 09 | Final Laboratory Examination | May 09 / 2:50 pm |

All Course Due Dates and Events in Chronological Order

The following table lists the due dates and times of each assignment in the course and special events for the course. NOTICE: Changes in the course syllabus, procedures, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

| Due Date - Time | Assignment |
|--------------------------|---|
| Mon 02/10/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 1: Earth Basics |
| Fri 02/14/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 01: Measuring Nature |
| Fri 02/21/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 02: Minerals and Mineral Properties |
| Mon 02/24/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 2: Earth Materials |
| Fri 02/28/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 03: Rocks and the Rock Cycle |
| Fri 03/07/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 04: Maps and Orientation |
| Mon 03/17/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 3: Earth Systems |
| Fri 03/21/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 05: Topographic Maps and Profiles |
| Fri 03/21/2025, 2:50 pm | Laboratory Midterm: Earth Science |
| Fri 03/21/2025, 11:59 pm | Lecture Midterm: Earth Science |
| Mon 03/31/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 4: Life and Cells |
| Fri 04/03/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 06: Life and the Fossil Record |
| Fri 04/10/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 07: Simple Life and Micropaleontology |
| Mon 04/14/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 5: Classification and Genetics |
| Fri 04/25/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 08: Invertebrates and Invertebrate Paleontology |
| Fri 05/02/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 09: Vertebrates and Vertebrate Paleontology |
| Mon 05/05/2025, 11:59 pm | Quiz 6: Evolution and Ecosystems |
| Fri 05/09/2025, 1:00 pm | Lab 10: Plants and Paleobotany |
| Fri 05/09/2025, 2:50 pm | Laboratory Final: Life Science |
| Fri 05/09/2025, 11:59 pm | Group Project Video Presentations |
| Mon 05/12 – 11:59 pm | Lecture Final: Life Science |