

GEOS4694: Mass Extinctions and Global Change Laboratory

Spring 2022

Lab Section: 21A Th 3-4:50 PM | **Location:** BO 125

Instructor Information

Professor: Anna M. Weiss, Ph.D.
Please call me: Anna; Dr. or Professor Weiss (Pronounced like “Rice” but with a “W”)
Pronouns: (she/her)
Email: anna.weiss@msutexas.edu (expect a response in 24-36 hours)

Teaching Assistant: Wiltany Rolle
Please call me: Wiltany
Email: wiltanychelsearolle@gmail.com

Lab Materials

Required Text

There is no required text for this lab.

We will not provide printed copies of labs. You will be responsible for printing out the lab.

Alternatively, you may bring a laptop or other device from which you can work directly and later print or email a copy to your TA (ask your TA for their policy).

Lab Materials

Pencil/pen

Notebook/Lab handouts (or laptop to take notes)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

All readings, assignments, etc. will be announced in class and posted on D2L. Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of 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.

Grading

Table 1: Total points for final lab grade

Assignments	Percentage of grade
Labs	70%
Final Project	30%

Table 2: Total points for final class grade.

Assignments	Percentage of grade
Class Participation and Discussions	10%
Quizzes	10%
Exams	20%
Final Exam	20%
Lab Overall Grade	40%

Table 3: Total points for final class grade.

Grade	Points
A	90 + %
B	80 to 89.9%
C	70 to 79.9%
D	60 to 69.9%
F	Less than 60%

Lab Due Dates

Labs will be due one week after their assignment (if there are exceptions, students will be made aware prior to assignment).

Exams

There will be no exams in the lab portion of this class. You will however have a final project and individual paper that will be worth 20% of your grade.

Late Work

Normally, late work would be accepted but with a 5 point penalty per day it is late. However, given COVID-19 I am going to be more lenient and am willing to work with students given extenuating

circumstances. If you are having trouble keeping up or need extra time on an assignment, please contact your TA as early as possible.

Make Up Labs

You will not pass this class if you do not attend and complete the lab portion. You must attend your assigned lab section. If you cannot attend due to illness or extenuating circumstance, please contact me as soon as possible for an alternative.

Extra Credit

I do not accept individual extra credit assignments, however, there may be opportunities for extra credit offered to the entire class.

Instructor Class Policies

Attendance

You cannot pass this class if you do not attend lab. You will not be able to participate in lab virtually. If you must be absent, please contact the instructor IN ADVANCE of the lab.

Cell phones and Computers

Computers may be used in lab to take notes. Cell phones are not allowed in labs at all in order to ensure students complete the assignment in the allotted time. If you are found using your phone during lab, a warning will be given, then you will be asked to leave. If you have an emergency or are expecting a phone call, please step outside so not to distract others.

Food and Drink

Food and drink will not be allowed in lecture space or lab. Please refrain from eating or drinking during this period.

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 [Disability Support Services](#).

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Specifically,

"a. The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

(1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations;

(2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or

(3) the acquisition without permissions, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the university, faculty, or staff.

b. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

c. The term "collusion" means collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit if that collaboration is not authorized by the faculty member in charge." From [Student Handbook 2019-20](#)

I do not tolerate academic dishonesty of any kind. If you are caught cheating, colluding or plagiarizing, you will be given a zero on the assignment and a written warning. If you are caught twice, you will receive an F in my class.

Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters, including appeals, may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Refer to: <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Modalities of instruction may change given developments in COVID-19. Instructor will inform students in writing of any changes to be made prior to making them.

Lab Schedule*

** This schedule represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, the plans may need to change to enhance learning opportunities. Please check for announcements on D2L and your email regularly.*

<i>Week</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Lab Assignments</i>
1	M 1/10 – F 1/14	Lab 1: Greenhouse Gasses
2	M 1/17 - F 1/21	Lab 2: Water in the Southwest
3	M 1/24 – F 1/28	Lab 3: Measuring Climate Change
4	M 1/31 – F 2/4	Lab 4: Paleoclimate
5	M 2/7 - F 2/11	Lab 5: Evolution and Climate Change
6	M 2/14 - F 2/18	Lab 6: Range Shifts and Climate Change
7	M 2/21 - F 2/25	Lab 7: Permanent Plots
8	M 2/28 - F 3/4	Lab 8: Ocean Acidification
9	M 3/7 - F 3/11	Lab 9: Mass Extinctions
10	M 3/14 - F 3/18	No Lab
11	M 3/21 - F 3/25	Lab 10: Foram Paleoecology and Extinction
12	M 3/28 - F 4/1	Lab 10 Cont'd Foram Paleoecology and Extinction
13	M 4/4 - F 4/8	Lab 11: Are We In A Sixth Mass Extinction?
14	M 4/11 - F 4/15	No Lab
15	M 4/18 - F 4/22	Lab 12: Peer Review Proposals
16	M 4/25 – F 4/29	Lab 13: Present Proposals

