

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
State University of New York

Master Course Syllabus

Course Title: Introduction to Paleontology

Course Abbreviation and Number: GLG 1640

Credit Hours: 3

Division: STEM

Course Type: Lecture

Course Description: Students will examine the history of life on Earth as reflected in the fossil record. The course covers the oldest known forms of life from over three billion years ago through the origin of marine communities, the invasion of land, dinosaurs, and the age of mammals. Emphasis will be placed on common fossil groups and the interaction of organisms with their diverse environments. This is an introductory course for students with little or no science background.

Corequisite: ENG 1530.

Course Attributes: E,L,N

(C=Career, E=Elective, H=Humanities, L=Liberal Arts & Sciences, N=Mathematics/Sciences, S=Social Sciences; VEDP=Values, Ethics & Diverse Perspectives)
4-letter codes represent SUNY General Education Courses, please see below to determine which SUNY General Education requirement(s) is met.

Student Learning Outcomes:

After the successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Define the subject matter and tools for the study of paleontology.
2. List/describe the major types of life, the fossil evidence, and the environment that existed at each geologic era, period, and epoch. [First one-celled organisms, first multi-celled organisms, age of invertebrates, age of fishes, age of amphibians, age of reptiles, first flowering plants, age of mammals, human development.]
3. Describe and locate the fossils of Western and Central New York within the geologic time line.
4. Describe the conditions for the great extinctions during the Permian and Cretaceous-Tertiary

Additional Student Learning Outcomes that meet SUNY General Education Requirements:

Does this course meet a SUNY General Education requirement(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Topical Outline:

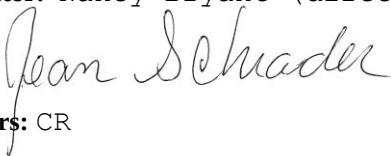
- Introduction to geologic time scale, preservation of fossils in the sedimentary rocks, and identification of fossils.
 - History of life, fossil evidence, and tectonic events during Pre-Cambrian and Lower-Paleozoic
 - History of life, fossil evidence, and tectonic events during the Upper-Paleozoic. The Permian extinction.
 - History of life, fossil evidence, and tectonic events during the Mesozoic. The Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction.
 - History of life, fossil evidence, and tectonic events during the Cenozoic.
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Signatures and Dates:

Discipline Director: Nancy Bryant (director)

Date: 12/16/09

Assistant Dean:



Date: 1/12/2010

Academic Affairs: CR

Date: 1/12/2010

Effective Date: Spring 2010