

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

GLG 225 INTRODUCTION TO PALEONTOLOGY

Credit Hours: 4 Lec 3 Lab 2

PREREQUISITE: GLG 101 or 102 or BIO 181

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Basic paleontological principles; classification of fossils, their occurrence, geologic distribution, and evolution.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Be introduced to the organic history of the earth.
- 1.2 Learn the processes by which paleontologists investigate and interpret the fossil record.
- 1.3 Gain a better understanding of the organization and classification of fossils.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 identify and recognize major fossils of animals and plants and understand their classification and evolution.
- 2.2 make comparisons of fossils between different continents and understand how fossils apply to the plate tectonic theory.
- 2.3 understand the inter-relationships between paleontology and other areas of science.
- 2.4 recognize various types of fossil preservation.
- 2.5 be prepared with a basis of geologic study so that they can, if they choose, enroll in more advanced courses in geology or related disciplines in biology or anthropology.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lecture
- 3.2 Classroom demonstration
- 3.3 Multi-media aids
- 3.4 Hands-on observation
- 3.5 Laboratory exercises
- 3.6 Field trips

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Reading assignments
- 4.2 Lectures
- 4.3 Laboratory exercises
- 4.4 Fossil identification, classification and recognition of morphological characteristics
- 4.5 Required and optional field trips
- 4.6 Research paper and oral presentation

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Class participation
- 5.2 Laboratory exercises
- 5.3 Research paper and oral presentation
- 5.4 Quizzes
- 5.5 Exams

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.

- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester. Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid. For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
- Submitting an academic assignment
 - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
 - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
 - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
 - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course