HISTORICAL GEOLOGY 1234 Lecture SYLLABUS

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Text: Historical Geology, 6th ed., Wicander and Monroe

LECTURE TOPICS
Aug. 22, 24: Introduction- Chap. 1
Aug. 29, 31; Sept. 2: Origins of the Universe, Solar System, and Earth- Chap. 1
Sept. 5: Labor Day: no classes
Sept. 7, 9: Rocks- Chap. 2
Sept. 12, 14, 16: Sedimentary Rocks and Depositional Environments- Chap. 6
Sept. 19, 21: Plate Tectonics- Chap. 3
Test 1: Friday, September 23
Sept. 26, 28, 30; Oct. 3, 5: Geologic Principles, Time, and Fossils- Chaps. 4, 5
Oct. 7, 10, 12, 14: Evolution and Classification- Chap. 7
Oct. 17, 19, 21: The Precambrian Earth and Life- Chaps. 8, 9
Oct. 24, 26, 28: The Paleozoic Era, Earth- Chaps. 10, 11
Test 2: Monday, October 31
Nov. 2, 4: The Paleozoic Era, Earth- Chaps. 10, 11
Nov. 7, 9: Life of the Paleozoic, Invertebrates and Vertebrates- Chaps. 12, 13
Nov. 11, 14: The Mesozoic Era, Earth- Chap. 14
Nov. 16, 18, 21: Life of the Mesozoic- Chap. 15
November 23-25: no classes, Thanksgiving
Nov. 28, 30: The Cenozoic Era, Earth- Chaps. 16, 17
Dec. 2- Primate and Human Evolution- Chap. 19
Final Exam: Wed., Dec. 7, 10:30am

CLASSROOM POLICIES:
Students are required to attend class. Please be on time and do not leave early. Students should refer to the MSU Student Handbook for policies related to student rights, responsibilities, and activities. Students with disability must be registered with the Disability Support Services before classroom accommodations can be provided.

GRADING POLICY:
Lecture- 75% of course grade: 2 tests and a final exam, each worth 25%. There will be no make-up tests.
Laboratory- 25% of course grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Students will gain perspective on geologic time through the use of relative and absolute dating techniques. They will also understand how changes in the Earth are related to the evolution of life, and become aware of major physical and biological events that have occurred during the Earth’s history.