

# Geography 106 Syllabus – Spring 2022

**Important Note:** This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or through email.

## Course Information

### Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Eric Larsen  
**Office:** Science B307  
**Office Hours:** Mon 1-2 Wed 10-11, or by appt.  
**Office Telephone:** 715-346-4098  
**E-mail:** [elarsen@uwsp.edu](mailto:elarsen@uwsp.edu)

### Course Information

**Course Description: Geology 106 (Earth History)** is intended to provide students with an introductory overview of the earth's geologic development over time. Thus, it covers topics such as geologic time, radiometric dating, plate tectonics, paleontology, stratigraphy, and major periods in the earth's geologic past.

The online format allows students to work at their own pace, but be sure to stay on schedule.

**Prerequisite:** None

### Course Structure

This course will be delivered entirely online through UWSP's Canvas course management system and the "Z drive," a UWSP Geography Department server. See Canvas for instructions for connecting to the Z drive.

Questions can be submitted to me via email or within the Canvas question forum (Canvas questions are designed as more of a class resource). We can also set up a Zoom conference if you wish.

### Expected Instructor Response Times

- During standard working hours (8AM-5PM) I should be able to respond to questions with half a day faster. After 4 PM don't expect an answer until the following morning. I will certainly attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours at most. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please resend your email.
- I will do my best to grade all written work within 48 hours. Many Canvas assignments are automatically graded when submitted.

## Textbook & Course Materials

- **Required Texts:**

1. Levin, Harold and David T. King Jr. The Earth Through Time, 11<sup>th</sup> edition. ISBN 978-1-1 19-22834-9. Wiley. Available as a rental at the UWSP bookstore.

## Course Technology Requirements

- A computer/internet connection to connect to UWSP's Canvas software and the "Z drive."

## Technical Assistance

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas you can check with the instructor or

- Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](#)
- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - IT Service Desk Email: [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu)

## Course Objectives:

Investigate the origin and evolution of Earth in response to geologic processes.

## Grading Policies-Evaluation

Earth History is designed as a self-study class and grades are based on submitting correct, detailed answers to Canvas quizzes (these aren't really quizzes so much as worksheets you can save and return to several times, but may only SUBMIT once before deadlines). You may fill out the worksheets as you read the text. Material may be submitted early. Late work will be docked 25%.

**Grades:** The course grading scheme is as follows:

### Grades:

A	>= 93%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	60-66%
B-	80-82%	F	<60%
C+	77-79%		

## Course Schedule:

Lesson	Dates	Topic	Assignments	HW Due Dates <sup>1</sup>
1	1/24-2/13	Geologic Time & Stratigraphy	See Canvas	2/13
2	2/14-3/6	Precambrian	See Canvas	3/6
3	3/7-4/3	Paleozoic	See Canvas	4/3
4	4/4-4/24	Mesozoic	See Canvas	4/24
5	4/25-5/15	Cenozoic	See Canvas	5/15

## Course Policies

### Netiquette Guidelines

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community.

The following netiquette tips will enhance the learning experience for everyone in the course:

- Do not dominate any discussion.
- Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.
- Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
- Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
- Popular emoticons such as ☺ or / can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them.
- Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
- Never make fun of someone's ability to read or write.
- Share tips with other students.
- Keep an "open-mind" and be willing to express even your minority opinion. Minority opinions have to be respected.
- Think and edit before you push the "Send" button.
- Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
- Using humor is acceptable

### Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

### Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

## Incomplete Policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if in cases of emergency. Incompletes will not be issued for simply failing to complete course requirements in a timely fashion. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within the following academic semester.

<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Incompletes.aspx>

## Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed

If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 (Voice) (715) 346-3362 (TDD only) or via email at [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu)

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### Statement of Policy

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

*If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center in 609 ALB, or (715) 346-3365.*

## Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

## UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

### Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;

- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
- (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

### **Religious Beliefs**

Relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first week of class.