**GLY 201 HISTORICAL GEOLOGY SP-14**

**Instructor**: Dr. Ronald L. Martino

Office: 174 Science Building,

Office: S174; Hours: M, W, F: 8-9, 10-11; M: 3-4 (appointment recommended)

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**Text:** The Earth Through Time, 2013, 10th Edition, H. L. Levin

**Course Description** 3 credit hours, three 50 minute lectures/week

Interpretation of chronologic history and development of the earth,

sequence of the geologic ages and rock formations, and

development of life based on fossil record.

**Course Objectives**

1) to provide an understanding of current geologic interpretations regarding the origin of

the earth and its physical, chemical, and biologic development through time;

2) to develop a working knowledge of the principles, assumptions, types of evidence,

and methodology used to develop historical interpretations from the rock record;

3) to provide an overview of the changing geography of the world through time, with

emphasis on geologic events that have shaped the North American continent.

**Grading:**

The final average will be calculated as follows:

Exams 1, 2, 3, and 4 = 15 % each

Final Exam = 20 % (comprehensive)

Attendance = 10 %

Participation = 10 %

Final letter grades will be assigned on the basis of your final average as follows:

A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (<60).

The attendance grade will be based on the number of unexcused absences (cuts). No cuts=100%. Roll will be called at the beginning of each class. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor that you are present at the end of the period. Lateness will be counted against the attendance grade.

The participation grade is based on student’s preparation for class and ability to respond to assigned questions and participate in class discussions, and performance on any homework that may be assigned, or quizzes that are given. Since you must be present to participate, attendance will also impact your participation grade.

**Course Policies**

In general, only university-excused absences will be accepted for missing an exam or class (p. 83-84, 2013-2014 Undergraduate Catalog).

Any form of academic dishonesty that occurs will result in dismissal from the course and an automatic final grade of “F” . A letter outlining the offense will be forwarded to the academic dean for consideration of further action (see p. 69-73, Undergraduate Catalog: http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/UG\_13-14\_published.pdf).

**Schedule of Topics**

Reading

Week 1 Topic Assignment (Chapter)

1-2 Introduction to Earth History 1-3

3 The Sedimentary Archives 5

4 Life on Earth: What Do Fossils Reveal 6

**Exam # 1**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5 Earth Structure and Plate Tectonics 7

6 Earliest Earth: ...Archean Eon 8

7 The Proterozoic Eon 9

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Exam # 2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

8 Early Paleozoic Events 10

9 Late Paleozoic Events 11

10 Life of the Paleozoic 12

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Exam # 3\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11 Mesozoic Events 13

12 Life of the Mesozoic 14

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Exam # 4**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13 Cenozoic Events 15

14-15 Life of the Cenozoic 16

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Final Exam (comprehensive) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Websites of interest:** [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) (U.S. Geological Survey)

[www.agi.org](http://www.agi.org). (American Geological Institute); [www.geosociety.org](http://www.geosociety.org) (Geol. Society of Am.);

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>. . (U.S. Dept of Labor); [www.aapg.org](http://www.aapg.org) (Am As. Petrol Geol)