Course goals:

The aim of this course is to learn how to interpret the sedimentary record. It will cover most of the basic concepts of sedimentation and stratigraphy from the properties of individual grains to basin analysis. A major emphasis of this course will be placed on depositional models, both modern and ancient â€“ these will be examined in detail with an eye toward interpretation of depositional processes and paleoenvironmental analysis. Short lab and field exercises are a significant part of this course and are designed to improve your ability to make observations and cogently describe and interpret sedimentary structures and successions.

Course format:

two lectures a week and a lab section

Preliminary field trip day: Wed Oct 23 (may need to be moved to a weekend day depending on student schedules)

Typical enrollees:

Students interested in geology and those with different focus (geochemistry, paleontology, structure) but who want to learn how to interpret paleoenvironments to interpret fossil assemblages, ancient climate change, or tectonic evolution of an area.

When is course typically offered?

fall, every two years

What can students expect from you as an instructor?

The course will include lectures and hands-on activities.

Assignments and grading:

25% lab exercises

10% midterm exam

20% field trip

20% final paper

25% lecture final exam

Enrollment cap, selection process, notification:

No enrollment cap. Any one or more EPS geology, geobiology, geochemistry, or paleontology (OEB) classes (e.g., EPS 10, 21, 53 , 54, 56, 110, 120, 121, 145, 189) or permission from the instructor.