Geology 305 – Dinosaurs!    Online Only
Professor:
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214 Volcanology
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Office Hours:
M 2:00-3:00, Th 3:30-4:30

Chapters from Fastovsky and Weishampel listed for each topic.
There will be a quiz on Blackboard due at 5PM Friday of each week, on the topics listed. You may take the quiz at any time during the week, but once you begin you have ten minutes to complete it.

Week:
1: Basics of Scientific Method. What is historical science? (not in text)
   Chapter 1: What is a fossil? Fossil collecting and preparation.
   Chapter 3: Constructing the tree of life: phylogenetic systematics.
   **Term paper topic must be approved by 5PM Friday**
3: Chapter 4: Dinosaurs in evolutionary context, The origin of the dinosaurs.
   Part II intro: Ornithischia overview.
4: Chapter 5 Thyreophora: Stegosauria & Ankylosauria
   **EXAM 1**
5 : Chapter 6: Marginocephalia: Pachycephalosauria & Ceratopsia.
   Chapter 7: Ornithopoda: Duck-Billed Dinosaurs
   **Term paper rough drafts due by 5PM Friday**
6: Part III intro: Saurischia overview.
   Chapter 8: Sauropodomorpha.
7: Chapter 9: Theropoda I: fierce dinosaurs.
   Chapter 10: Theropoda II: The Origin of Birds.
   **EXAM 2**
8: Chapter 11: Theropoda III: Early Birds.
9: Chapter 12: Dinosaur Thermoregulation.
   Chapter 13: Mesozoic Plants
   **Term paper due at 5PM on Friday**
10: Chapter 14: A history of paleontology through ideas
    Chapter 15: K-T Extinction.
   **EXAM 3**

Grading:
**Exams** will NOT be comprehensive: each will cover its section of the class. Each is worth 20% of the final grade.
**Weekly Quizzes** will be worth a total of 20% of your final grade. There will be a quiz on Blackboard due at 5PM Friday of each week, on the topics listed. You may take the quiz at any time during the week, but once you begin you have ten minutes to complete it.
The **term paper** will be due on Blackboard at the end of week 9. Term paper topics must be approved by the end of week 2 with **no exceptions**. An approved term paper topic is worth 10% of the total term paper grade (2% of your overall grade), so do not be late. The term paper will be worth 20% of your final grade.

This syllabus and all additional course materials will be available on the blackboard site.