

GEOS619Syllabus

GEOS 619-FO1 – CRN 34492 , Spring 2008

Advanced X-ray Spectroscopy, 2 credits

- Instructor: Ken Severin, [✉ fnkps@uaf.edu](mailto:fnkps@uaf.edu)
Office 324 NSB, X5821
 - Office hours by appointment. Please try [✉ email](mailto:fnkps@uaf.edu) to set one up. I can often be found in the probe lab, 156 NSB, X5820
 - Home phone: 455-6552, cell 978-6369, calls are OK between 9am and 11pm

Class will meet 10-11am Wednesdays, Room 306 Reichardt (Geology Library)

- The purpose of this course is to allow the students to expand their knowledge of electron microprobe and XRF analytical techniques. Topics to be covered include standard and sample preparation, quantification methods, x-ray mapping and classification, error analysis, and the presentation of analytical methods to others through a wiki. Project proposals and progress reports should use the format of the Geological Society of America Graduate Student Research Grants Forms (<http://www.geosociety.org/grants/gradgrants.htm>).
- **Grading is Whole Letter Grade Only.** Late assignments will not be accepted. **Working together is encouraged, but the work you turn in, and your final project, must be your own within the guidelines of Student Conduct as stated in the current UAF catalog.**
- Grades will be assigned as follows: A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 65-69% F: <65%
- Grades are based on:
 - 5% Oral presentation of project proposal (27 Feb)
 - 10% Written project proposal (27 Feb)
 - 10% Project Progress Oral report (9 April)
 - 10% Electronic Progress report (11 April)
 - 20% Written final project report / cookbook
 - 15% Oral final project presentation
 - 10% Written and oral evaluations of fellow students' project proposals (19 March)
 - 5% Wiki progress presentation (26 March)
 - 10% Wiki final presentation (23 April)
 - 5% Instructor evaluation of participation

Class Schedule

- 30 January – General class information, requirements, scheduling.
- 6 February – Discussion of proposals and wiki content.
- 13 February – Ken Gone, no class, work on proposal and wiki.
- 20 February – Oral review of preliminary project proposals.

- 27 February – Oral presentation of project proposal; written proposal due by 5 pm; preliminary assignment of wiki tasks.
- 5 March – Ken Gone, no class, work on project and wiki.
- 12 March – No Class (Spring Break)
- 19 March – Written and Oral evaluation of fellow students' project proposals
- 26 March – Oral/Computer presentation of wiki progress.
- 2 April – Lecture - TBA
- 9 April – Oral Project Progress reports – electronic progress report on wiki by 11 April
- 16 April – Review by students of electronic progress report
- 23 April Final Wiki Presentations 30 April Final Project Presentations
- Final Paper Due May 7 – 5pm, hard copy to Ken and e-copy on AILwiki.

There is no required text for this course. Suggested texts (available from the instructor) include:

- Potts PJ. 1987. A Handbook of Silicate Rock Analysis. Blackie. Glasgow, UK. 622 pages. A great reference but WAY pricey (and I think out of print now).
- Scott, VD, Love, G, and Reed, SJB. 1995. Quantitative Electron-Probe Microanalysis. Second Edition. Ellis Horwood, New York. 311 pages.

The emphasis of the final project should be less on the "scientific meaning" of the project and more on "how do I get the numbers out of the machine, and how good are they?" An example might be "I wanted to measure F in apatite. This is how I dealt with interferences and if you follow my method you can get numbers this good." The fact that the F numbers let you say something about the evolution of Denali is interesting, but irrelevant to this class. Feel free to use the data gathered in this class for other **non-commercial** projects or classes you may have. **If you have any thoughts about using AIL equipment commercially, contact me first so I don't get in trouble** (and believe me, I won't go by myself!). It is possible to use the equipment for commercial purposes, but there are certain University regulations that must be followed.

A written report on the project is required. It should be a 'cookbook' style paper that will assist future users in pursuing the type of study the student has done. The written report is due May 7 by 5pm, both by hard copy, and on the wiki.

Students will conduct themselves in accordance with the "Student Code of Conduct" as put forward in the applicable University of Alaska Fairbanks Catalog.

Disabilities Services: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. The assistants and I will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

This syllabus is a contract between you as a student and me as an instructor and it cannot be changed after the first lecture. If you do not wish to be follow it then do not take the class.

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