

Lecture and Lab Schedule

Day	Topic	Reading	Lab Exercise	Due
Friday 9/1	Introduction: Preservability and the fossil record of life	Chapter 1		
Monday 9/4	Labor Day! No Class!!!!			
Wednesday 9/6	Fossilization: 1 million years to rock hard abs	Chapter 1		Writing Sample
Friday 9/8	How does your skeleton grow? Ontogeny & the species concept	Chapter 2		
Monday 9/11	Fossil taxa: The species problem compounded	Chapter 3	1: Modes of Fossilization	
Wednesday 9/13	Earth's oldest fossils	Chapter 19 435-440		
Friday 9/15	Eukaryotes and the emergence of animals	Chapter 12 215-223		Paper topic/title
Monday 9/18	Predation, skeletalization, and the Cambrian explosion		2: Primordial Reefs: Stromatolites, Sponges, and Archaeocyathids	Lab #1
Wednesday 9/20	Ordering Cnidarians: How to make a body from a 2-ply bag	Chapter 12 223-225		
Friday 9/22	Ediacaran Fauna: Multicellular test drive or coral cousins?			
Monday 9/25	Taphonomy: Death is just the beginning...	Handout: Behrensmeier	3: Cnidarians Join the Reef Community	Lab #2
Wednesday 9/27	Meteoric rise of the brachiopods	Chapter 13 230-244		
Friday 9/29	When is a clam not a clam? Brachiopod anatomy	Chapter 13 244-251		Reference List
Monday 10/2	What's a lophophore? Comparative byozoan anatomy	Chapter 15 295-307	4: The Brachiopoda and Bryozoa: Superficially Dissimilar Phyla	Lab #3
Wednesday 10/4	Exam #1			
Friday 10/6	Mollusca: A phylum with lots of class	Chapter 15 281-286		
Monday 10/9	Pelecypods are bivalves, too	Chapter 15 295-307	5: Molluscs I: How To Tell Bi-valved Animals Apart	Lab #4
Wednesday 10/11	What's wrong with evolutionary taxonomy?	Chapter 4		
Friday 10/13	Phylogeny and cladistics: Down with paraphyletic groups!	Chapter 4; Cladogram		Paper Outline

Day	Topic	Reading	Lab Exercise	Due
Monday 10/16	Does Darwinism = gradualism? How evolution really works	Chapter 5	6: Molluscs II: Pelecypod Dissection	Lab #5 Cladogram
Wednesday 10/18	Class Gastropoda: A new twist on mollusks	Chapter 15 287-295		Cladogram
Friday 10/20	Class Cephalopoda: A lot of nerve, but no backbone	Chapter 15 307-317		
Monday 10/23	Encountering Sea Monsters: Cephalopods on DVD		7: Molluscs III: Cephalopods and Gastropods: Nervous and Twisted	Lab #6
Wednesday 10/25	Overview of the Arthropoda: Guest Speaker Derek Sikes			
Friday 10/27	The Arthropoda: Phylum or Superphylum?	Chapter 14		
Monday 10/30	Trilobites: Cockroaches of the Cambrian seas	Chapter 14 255-265	8: Arthropods From Sea to Land	Lab #7
Wednesday 11/1	Permian mass extinction I: Volcanoes and asteroids?	Chapter 6		
Friday 11/3	Permian mass extinction II: Poisonous oceans and thin air?	Chapter 6		First Draft
Monday 11/6	A circular life: Phylum Echinodermata	Chapter 16	9: Mouth in the Middle: Radial Symmetry and Echinoderms	Lab #8
Wednesday 11/8	Exam #2			
Friday 11/10	Get a backbone! Enigmatic animal microfossils	Chapter 17 343-356		
Monday 11/13	From fins to feet: Fish and amphibians	Chapter 17 356-377	10: Microscopic Animalia: Conodonts and Graptolites	Lab #9
Wednesday 11/15	The sexual revolution: Dinosaurs and other amniotes	Chapter 17 377-393		
Friday 11/17	Feeding and breeding: Mammalian evolution	Chapter 17 394-416		
Monday 11/20	A brief history of plants I: Carboniferous coal swamps	Chapter 19 441-448	11: The Vertebrate Bauplan Lab at the Museum Today	Lab #10
Wednesday 11/22	History of plants II: Cones, flowers, and grasses	Chapter 19 448-461		
Friday 11/24	Thanksgiving Break! No Class!!!!			

Monday 11/27	Trace fossil taxonomy: How to name a footprint	Chapter 18	12: Form Genera: Ichnofossils, Plants, and Paleoenvironments	Lab #11
Wednesday 11/29	Paleoecology: Ecological terms and extinct communities	Chapter 8 119-141		
Friday 12/1	Kingdom Protista: A very full wastebasket	Chapter 11		Final Draft

Monday 12/4	Sink or swim! Siliceous and calcareous microfossils	Chapter 11	13: Freshwater & Marine Protists: Forams, Rads, and Diatoms	Lab #12
Wednesday 12/6	Paleoecology's greatest hits I: Evolutionary faunas	Chapter 8 141-147		
Friday 12/8	Greatest hits II: Digging deeper and chewing	Handout: Cerling et al		

Monday 12/11	Biogeography: Travel in the Phanerozoic Era	Chapter 9	Final Laboratory Exam	Lab #13
Saturday 12/16 8-10 AM	Final Exam			