

Lecture and Lab Schedule

Day	Topic	Reading	Lab Exercise	Due
Friday 9/7	Introduction: Preservability and the fossil record of life	Chapter 1		
Monday 9/10	Fossilization: 1 million years to rock hard abs	Chapter 1	1: Modes of Fossilization	
Wednesday 9/12	How does your skeleton grow? Ontogeny & the species concept	Chapter 2		Writing Sample
Friday 9/14	Fossil taxa: The species problem compounded	Chapter 3		
Monday 9/17	Earth's oldest fossils	Chapter 19 435-440	2: Primordial Reefs: Stromatolites, Sponges, and Archaeocyathids	Lab #1
Wednesday 9/19	Eukaryotes and the emergence of animals	Chapter 12 215-223		
Friday 9/21	Predation, skeletalization, and the Cambrian explosion			Paper topic/title
Monday 9/24	Ordering Cnidarians: How to make a body from a 2-ply bag	Chapter 12 223-225	3: Cnidarians Join the Reef Community	Lab #2
Wednesday 9/26	Ediacaran Fauna: Multicellular test drive or coral cousins?			
Friday 9/28	Meteoric rise of the brachiopods	Chapter 13 230-244		
Monday 10/1	When is a clam not a clam? Brachiopod anatomy	Chapter 13 244-251	4: Lophophorates I: Paleozoic – The age of Brachiopods	Lab #3
Wednesday 10/3	What's a lophophore? Comparative byrozoan anatomy	Chapter 15 295-307		Reference List
Friday 10/5	Taphonomy: Death is just the beginning...	Handout: Behrensmeyer		
Monday 10/8	Exam #1		5: Lophophorates II: Bryozoan Colonies Past and Present	Lab #4
Wednesday 10/10	Mollusca: A phylum with lots of class	Chapter 15 281-286		
Friday 10/12	Pelecypods are bivalves, too	Chapter 15 295-307		
Monday 10/15	What's wrong with evolutionary taxonomy?	Chapter 4	6: Molluscs I: How To Tell Bi-valved Animals Apart	Lab #5
Wednesday 10/17	Phylogeny and cladistics: Down with paraphyletic groups!	Chapter 4		Paper Outline
Friday 10/19	Try this at home! Constructing a cladogram			

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Monday 10/22	Does Darwinism = gradualism? How evolution really works	Chapter 5	7: Molluscs II: Pelecypod Dissection	Lab #6
Wednesday 10/24	Class Gastropoda: A new twist on mollusks	Chapter 15 287-295		
Friday 10/26	Class Cephalopoda: A lot of nerve, but no backbone	Chapter 15 307-317		
Monday 10/29	Encountering Sea Monsters: Cephalopods on DVD		8: Molluscs III: Cephalopods and Gastropods: Nervous and Twisted	Lab #7
Wednesday 10/31	The Arthropoda: Phylum or Superphylum?	Chapter 14		First Draft
Friday 11/2	Trilobites: Cockroaches of the Cambrian seas	Chapter 14 255-265		
Monday 11/5	Permian mass extinction I: Volcanoes and asteroids?	Chapter 6	9: Arthropods From Sea to Land	Lab #8
Wednesday 11/7	Permian mass extinction II: Poisonous oceans and thin air?	Chapter 6		
Friday 11/9	Echinoderms I: Stars upon thars	Chapter 16		
Monday 11/12	Echinoderms II: No flowers in Paleozoic meadows	Chapter 16: 325-335	10: Mouth in the Middle: Radial Symmetry and Echinoderms	Lab #9
Wednesday 11/14	Exam #2			
Friday 11/16	Get a backbone! Enigmatic animal microfossils	Chapter 17 343-356		
Monday 11/19	Ichnofossils I: Invertebrates burrow and squirm	Chapter 18: 419-426	11: Microscopic Animalia: Conodonts and Graptolites	Lab #10
Wednesday 11/21	Ichnofossils II: Vertebrates at rest and in motion	Chapter 18: 426-432		
Friday 11/23	Thanksgiving Break: No Class!!!!			
Monday 11/26	Spores versus pollen: Sex and the sessile organism	Chapter 19: 440-448	12: Form Genera: Ichnofossils, Plants, and Paleoenvironments	Lab #11
Wednesday 11/28	Got xylem? The pros and cons of secondary growth	Chapter 19 448-461		Final Draft
Friday 11/30	Kingdom Protista: A very full wastebasket	Chapter 11		

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Monday 12/3	Sink or swim! Siliceous and calcareous microfossils	Chapter 11	13: Freshwater & Marine Protists: Forams, Rads, and Diatoms	Lab #12
Wednesday 12/5	Paleoecology's greatest hits I: Evolutionary faunas	Chapter 8		
Friday 12/7	Greatest hits II: Digging deeper and chewing	Handout: Cerling et al.		

Monday 12/10	Biostratigraphy : What do FADs and LADS really mean?	Chapter 10	Final Laboratory Exam	Lab #13
Wednesday 12/12	Biogeography I: Realms, biomes, and boundaries	Chapter 9: 149-159		
Friday 12/14	Biogeography II: Travel in the Phanerozoic Era	Chapter 9: 159-167		

Monday 12/17 8-10 AM	Final Exam			
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