

## COURSE SYLLABUS

**COURSE:**      **GEL 113      HISTORICAL GEOLOGY**

**HOURS:**    Lecture:   3      Lab:   2      Shop/Clinical:   0      Credits:   4  

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the geological history of the earth and its life forms. Emphasis is placed on the study of rock strata, fossil groups, and geological time. Upon completion, students should be able to identify major fossil groups and associated rock strata and approximate ages of geological formations. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in natural sciences/mathematics.*

**PREREQUISITE(S):**    GEL 111 OR GEL 120

**COREQUISITE(S):**      None

### TEXTBOOK(S) & OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Levin, Harold. *The Earth Through Time*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley & Sons Publishing 2009. Print. ISBN # 9780470387740  
Readability Level: 12

Brice, James C., Harold Levin, and Michael Smith. *Laboratory Studies in Earth History*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York, N.Y.: McGraw-Hill, 2007. Print.  
ISBN # 9780073050720  
Readability Level: 13

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss earth structure and plate tectonics, such as basic geological structure (faults, folds, basins, Domes), plate movements and their results (i.e., orogenic events, rift valleys).
2. Discuss the concepts of geological time such as eons, eras, and epochs.
3. Explain the Big Bang Theory, and describe the Earth's early atmosphere, crustal formation, and the origins of life on the Earth.
4. Recall different types of fossilization and the important taxonomic phyla, classes, and orders of the fossil record.
5. Explain common sedimentary rock structures, features and relate it to events that occurred during the Paleozoic.
6. Discuss the geologic history of the Mesozoic Era, emphasizing sedimentary rock structures, transgression and regression of eperic seas, orogenic events, the rise

- of reptiles and dinosaurs, flowering plants, and the possible causes of the end of the Cretaceous Period.
7. Discuss the geologic history of the Cenozoic Era in North America, the rise of the mammals, the Pleistocene Ice Age, the future movement of North America and larger landmasses.
  8. Discuss the geologic history of North Carolina from the Smoky Mountains (Precambrian) to the coast (Recent), the fossil record of the state and specifically southeastern North Carolina.

### **SYLLABUS INFORMATION:**

The Student Learning Outcomes listed in this syllabus are those required actions that a student who successfully completes the course must be able to perform. The educational experience, however, is a two-way, interactive process involving both the student and the instructor. The student must play an active role in the learning process in order to be successful. Instructors will provide an Instructor's Syllabus at the first class meeting explaining how they measure each of the Student Learning Outcomes. A student who is unable to accomplish the outcomes will not receive a passing grade in the course.

The information in this BCC Syllabus may not be accurate beyond the current semester. Textbooks and other course materials are subject to change. Students should verify the textbooks at the first class meeting with their instructor prior to purchasing.

### **GRADING SYSTEM:**

Brunswick Community College employs a system of letter grades and corresponding quality points per grade to evaluate a student's performance in meeting the stated goals and objectives for each course. The grading system is published in the [BCC Catalog and Student Handbook](#).

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Each student has individual responsibility for attending class regularly and for meeting course objectives. A student is expected to attend all class meetings in a course. Rules on tardiness and leaving class early are addressed in each instructor's syllabus addendum. Instructors are required to record absences and report excessive absenteeism to the Registrar.

If a student is absent for any reason in excess of 20 percent of the class hours, he or she is in violation of the Brunswick Community College attendance policy. Unless the student officially withdraws from the course prior to the 65 percent point of the 16 week semester (or equivalent days for courses of other duration), he or she may receive a grade of "F."

Students who receive an "EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM NOTICE" are advised to contact their instructors immediately to review the conditions for withdrawing from the course or for continuing the course.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Brunswick Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which require that no qualified student with a disability be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of any services, programs or activities on the basis of his or her disability. If a student has a disability that is covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires accommodations in the classroom and/or in extracurricular activities, the student must request the accommodations in writing and submit the request to the Disability Services Coordinator. Instructors will not provide accommodations without notification from the Disability Services Coordinator. Brunswick Community College will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations.