ESS 302/433 Autumn 2009

Instructor: Terry Swanson **Office:** 161 Johnson Hall

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Office Hours: Monday 2:30-3:20 pm Friday 9:30-10:20 am.

Text: Quaternary Environments Williams et al. 1998. Arnold Publishing (2nd edition)

Grades: Your grade will be determined as follows:

Laboratory (JHN 127) 100 points (8 labs) ESS 302 only

Seminar (JNN 027) 100 points (presentation/exams) ESS 433 only

Field Report 60 points ESS 302/433 Midquarter Exam 120 points (ESS 302/ESS 433) Final Exam 120 points (ESS 302/ESS 433)

TOTAL 400 points

The midquarter exam will be short answer and essay type questions. Both examinations cover material from lecture and the text. The final examination will be multiple choice and will give greater emphasis to material covered in the second half of the quarter.

Laboratory (ESS 302) /Seminar (ESS 433): The laboratory/seminars are intended to introduce you to the practical applications of geology through group lab exercises and primary journal reading and discussions. You are expected to attend all weekly laboratory/seminar sessions. You cannot complete this course without completing the lab/seminar. Your instructor will discuss his/her lab schedule at the first lab meeting. Labs commence during the second week of the quarter.

Lab Fee: A lab fee has been assessed to your tuition bill to cover the expenditures for van rentals for field trips, and miscellaneous lab supplies.

Honor System: Rather than spend time trying to devise special tests, hire proctors, or compare papers, we have instituted an Honor System in this class: Students pledge to do their own work on assignments and tests. You may find that we are much more respectful and trusting of you compared to some other classes; please do not violate that trust by asking others to supply you with assignment and/or test answers. Cheating will be dealt with harshly. We will go out of my way to help you learn, so please take advantage of our enthusiasm and not our trust!

Student Assistance: My office hours will be flexible to accommodate your varied schedules. Your lab instructor will also hold office hours to assist you with problems.

Field Trips: A program of 2 weekend field trips will be offered on certain weekend days. You will receive 40 points credit for attending at least one of these field trips and writing a scientific field report on your field work.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

TOPIC

READING

Weeks 1-5 Assigned Readings: Introduction to Ice Ages; Glacial Theory

Assigned Readings: Glaciers and Glaciation

Ch. 1, 2 & 3 Glacial Landforms and Materials

-erosional-depositional

Ch. 2, 4 & 5 Causes of Glaciation

Assigned Readings 3: -terrestrial

-celestial

Ch. 1 & Ch. 2 Ancient Ice Ages (Pre-Pleistocene)

(pp. 38-86) Pleistocene Glaciation (pp. 86-96) Holocene Interglaciation

Ch. 3; Appendix Ice Age Chronology Assigned Readings: Dating Methods

Midterm Wedneday November 4th (in class)

Weeks 6-10 Evidence for Past Climatic Change

Ch. 2: Ice Core Records
Ch. 6: Sea Level Changes
Ch. 7: Evidence from Oceans
Ch. 8 & 9: Terrestrial Record

Lakes, Rivers, Groundwater, and Arid Regions

Ch. 10: Terrestrial Flora and Fauna

Ch. 12: Global climate models and atmospheric circulation

Ch. 13: Future environmental change

Final Exam - Thursday December 17th 8:30-10:20 am (in class).