

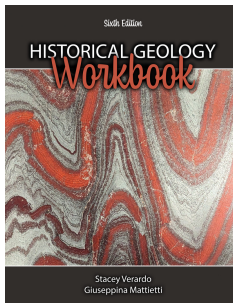


**HISTORICAL GEOLOGY LABORATORY**  
**Geology 104**  
**Section: 202**  
**George Mason University**  
**Spring 2025**

**Instructor: Edward Medeiros**  
**Office: 3455 Exploratory Hall**  
**Contact Email: emedeir4@gmu.edu**  
**Office Hours: Mondays, 1:30pm - 3:30pm**  
**Classroom: Exploratory Hall 1309**  
**Class Time: Mondays, 4:30pm-7:10pm**

**Mandatory Laboratory Workbook:** Historical Geology Workbook, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2024, Verardo, Mattietti ISBN: **978179243075**

<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/historical-geology>



**There are past editions to this book that are now invalid. Do NOT buy it from Amazon as those versions are likely outdated. Buy it directly from the link above or the GMU bookstore.**

**General information and Laboratory Policies:**

- It is the student's responsibility to verify his/her enrollment status in this lab section.
- NOTE that the first week of lab will be held during the SECOND week of the semester.
- This course fulfills the requirements for the GMU Core courses in the natural science, specifically, learning outcome 5: students will participate in scientific inquiry and communicate the elements of the process, including: a) making careful and systematic observations, b) developing and testing a hypothesis, c) analyzing evidence, and d) Interpreting results.
- The laboratory course consists of 13 lab sessions (see attached table with dates and lab topics). Lab session is scheduled for the duration of 2 hours 45 minutes. Expect to spend that amount of time in lab!

- There will be TWO exams to test your requisite knowledge of the material. <https://registrar.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Spring-2025-Final-Exam-Schedule-1.pdf>
  - All exercises are due by the start of the next week's lab. Missing a lab will be detrimental to your overall lab grade, as you will not be taught the information that will be on the exams.
  - Students are encouraged to participate actively in the lab activities and to collaborate at the solution of the problems presented during the session. That being said, all work must be your own. Group work is fine, group submission is prohibited.
  - Students take responsibility for their actions during GEOL 104 lab time. Students participating are bound by all university Policies and uphold the GMU Honor Code. Disruptive behavior during lab time will not be tolerated.
  - Students in GEOL 104 lab abide by the GMU Honor Code. <https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/>
  - Students take responsibility for their actions during GEOL 104 lab time. Students are bound by all university policies and uphold the GMU Honor Code. Disruptive behavior during lab time will not be tolerated. Violators will be told to leave the classroom and receive a zero for that week's lab.
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### **Course assessment**

- Exam 1 (midterm): 30% of course grade
- Exam 2 (final): 30% of course grade
- Lab exercises: 30% of course grade
  - Each week's lab exercise is equally weighted and graded out of 10pts
  - Due Dates: Each lab will be due on Blackboard **as a single PDF document** by the start of the next lab period (i.e. you have a week to complete/submit). **I do not accept late work, anything submitted past the deadline will receive a zero.** Anything submitted in an unreadable format will receive a zero.
  - The lowest lab score of the semester will be dropped.
  - **Attendance to the lab is mandatory for you to submit lab assignments.**
  - Barring extenuating circumstances, each student may only make up one missed lab.
- Pre-Lab Pop Quizzes: 5% of course grade
  - Each lab you will have a short chapter which I expect you to read **before** coming to class. I will draw quiz questions from this reading. These quizzes will be unannounced so come to lab prepared. Quizzes are meant to prepare you for exam questions and encourage you to keep up with course material throughout rather than cramming at exam time. If we have more than 3 quizzes, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
- Participation: 5% of course grade
  - Participation score is determined based on active work in lab, engagement in class and **punctuality**. Serial lateness will result in a reduction of participation score.
- Final grades are assigned based the letter grade scale you see here

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percent Grade</b>
<b>A+</b>	97-100
<b>A</b>	93 to <97
<b>A-</b>	90 to <93
<b>B+</b>	87 to < 90
<b>B</b>	83 to <87
<b>B-</b>	80 to < 83
<b>C+</b>	77 to <80
<b>C</b>	73 to <77
<b>C-</b>	70 to < 73
<b>D</b>	65 to <70
<b>F</b>	<65

### **Exam Integrity**

- Only in extenuating circumstances (which you clear with me) will I allow you to make up an exam. If you miss an exam without a valid excuse, you will receive a score of zero.
- Exam scores are final, re-takes will not be given under any circumstances.
- Academic dishonesty on an exam is an extremely serious offense which will result in me reporting you to the Office of Academic Integrity.

### **GMU policies**

- **Academic Integrity** It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. <https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/>
- **Disability Accommodation.** If you need special accommodations/arrangement for the class and the exams, you must first file with the [Office of Disability Services](https://ds.gmu.edu/) (703-993-2474) <https://ds.gmu.edu/>
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** Faculty, staff and students in this course welcome and value individuals and their differences including race, economic status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and disability. <https://diversity.gmu.edu/diversity>
- All faculty members are required to report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's [Title IX Coordinator](#) per [university policy 1412](#). If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact the [Student Support and Advocacy Center](#) (703-380-1434) or [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (703-993-2380) and [Mason's Title IX Coordinator](#) (703-993-8730) <https://diversity.gmu.edu/title-ix>
- Privacy: [Student privacy](#) is governed by the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#) and is an essential aspect of this course. Students MUST use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including communications related to this class. In accordance with FERPA regulation

### **Resources and suggestion for academic success**

- **GMU Resources:** GMU has additional resources for your academic success; among others: [Academic success workshops](#) (see calendar-<https://learningservices.gmu.edu/academic-success-workshops/>) [University Life https://ulife.gmu.edu/students/](https://ulife.gmu.edu/students/)

## GEOL 104 calendar – Spring 2025

Lab Session	Topic *	Date	Due
1	Review of rocks and minerals (Ch.1)	1/27	
2	Sedimentary rocks environments (Ch. 2)	2/3	Ch. 1 Lab
3	Clastic sediments under the microscope (Ch. 3)	2/10	Ch. 2 Lab
4	Relative dating (Ch. 4)	2/17	Ch. 3 Lab
5	Radiometric dating (Ch. 5)	2/24	Ch. 4 Lab
6	Correlations (Ch. 6)	3/3	Ch. 5 Lab
<b>SPRING BREAK – no classes</b>		<b>3/10-3/14</b>	
7	<b>EXAM 1</b>	<b>3/17</b>	Ch. 6 Lab
8	Phylum Porifera, Cnidaria, Bryozoa, Brachiopod (Ch. 7)	3/24	
9	Phylum Mollusca, Arthropods, Echinodermata, Conodonts (Ch. 8 and 9)	3/31	Ch. 7 Lab
10	Pollen and Climate (Ch. 10)	4/7	Ch. 8 and 9 Labs
11	Dinosaur Biomechanics (Ch. 11)	4/14	Ch. 10 Lab
12	Evolution in the fossil record (Ch. 12)	4/21	Ch. 11 Lab
13	Virginia Geology Ch. 13)	4/28	Ch. 12 Lab
15	<b>EXAM 2</b> <a href="https://registrar.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Spring-2025-Final-Exam-Schedule-1.pdf">https://registrar.gmu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Spring-2025-Final-Exam-Schedule-1.pdf</a>	<b>5/12 4:30pm in normal classroom</b>	<b>Ch. 13 Lab due on 5/5 at 4:30pm</b>

\*Unforeseen circumstances might result in a change/rearrangement of the lab topics.