



**Reading assignments:** Assignments listed on the attached schedule are from the required text and should be completed prior to class. Additional readings may be assigned on reserve in the USC-A library. The student is responsible for reading all material assigned, any handouts, and material presented in the lecture. See “Attendance is extremely highly recommended” above.

**Make-up exams:** Make-up exams will be offered only to those students who present acceptable written excuses to the instructor. Acceptable excuses are those recognized by the University and approved by the instructor. Make-up tests will cover the same material as the original exam, but may differ in content (specific items) and format (essay versus question-and-answer) from the original exam.

**Disability statement:** If you have a physical, psychological, and/or learning disability which might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Office of Disability Services, 126A B&E, (803) 641-3609, as soon as possible. The Disabilities Services Office will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.

**Writing Center.** USCA provides a Writing Center to assist you in your writing. Lecture Schedule, T, Th, 6:00 - 8:40 pm, USC-A Science Building, Room 216.

- Aug. 21T (1) **Introduction to Course. Why study Paleontology?**  
Chapter 1, What is Paleontology? Pages 1-8 (read by second meeting).  
Handout: Geologic Time Scale.  
**Lab #1:** Stromatolites and Trace Fossils (begin).
- 23Th (2) **Life and its Classifications.**  
Chapter 3, Fossils as Living Organisms, pages 43-49  
**Lab #1:** Stromatolites and Trace Fossils (finish).
- 28T (3) **Processes of Fossilization.**  
Chapter 2, Fossils and Fossilization. Pages 11-42.  
**Lab #2:** Preservation and Taphonomy. (begin).
- Aug. 30Th (4) **Origin of Life.**  
Chapter 4, Fossils and Evolution, pages 69-72.  
**Lab #2:** Preservation and Taphonomy. (finish).
- Sept. 04T (5) **Early Evolution of Life**  
Chapter 4, Fossils and Evolution, figure 4.10, page 90.  
Chapter 7, section 7.1, pages 115-120.  
**OR Trace Fossil Field Trip.**  
Chapter 18, Trace Fossils. Pages 302-317.  
AND **Lab #3:** Protista. Group project. (begin).
- 06Th (6) **Trace Fossil Field Trip**  
**OR Early Evolution of Life.** See above.  
AND **Lab #3:** Protista. Group project. (continue).
- 11T (7) **Phylogeny and Evolution.**  
Chapter 4, Fossils and Evolution. Pages 67-92.  
**Lab #3:** Protista. Group project. (continue).
- Sept. 13Th (8) **Protists.**  
Chapter 16, Microfossils: Foraminifera. Pages 278-289.

- Lab #3:** Protista. Group project. (finish).
- 18Th (9) **Early Evolution of Animals.**  
Chapter 7, Introduction to Fossil Record. Pages 115-135.  
**Lab #4:** Porifera and Cnidaria. (begin).
- 20Th (10) **Porifera. Cnidaria.**  
Chapter 13, Corals. Pages 238-252.  
**Lab #4:** Porifera and Cnidaria. (finish).
- 25T (11) **EXAM 1.**  
**Lab #5:** Annelida. Arthropoda. (begin).
- 27Th (12) **Annelida. Priapulida. Arthropoda.**  
Overheads. Handouts.  
Chapter 12, Trilobites. Pages 220-237.  
Chapter 17, Ostracods. Pages 290-301.  
**Lab #5:** Annelida. Arthropoda. (finish).
- Oct. 02T (13) **Stratigraphy. Biostratigraphy.**  
Chapter 5, Fossils and Stratigraphy. Pages 93-109.  
Chapter 23, Studies in Stratigraphy. Pages 372-384.  
**Lab #6:** Lophophorata (Brachiopoda and Bryozoa). (begin).
- 04Th (14) **Diversity through Time.**  
Chapter 16, Foraminifera, section 16.3, pages 284-285.  
Chapter 13, Corals, section 13.3, pages 245-246.  
Chapter 10, Brachiopoda, section 10.3, pages 192-194.  
Chapter 15, Bryozoa, section 15.3, pages 273, 274.  
Chapter 8, Bivalvia and Gastropoda, section 8.4, pages 147-151.  
Chapter 12, Trilobita, section 12.3, pages 230-232.  
Chapter 17, Ostracoda, section 17.3, pages 297-298.  
Chapter 7, Introduction to the Fossil Record, pages 121-135.  
The Fossil Record 2 (in class).  
**Lab #6:** Lophophorata (Brachiopoda and Bryozoa). (finish).
- 09T **NO CLASS. FALL BREAK.**
- 11Th (15) **Mass Extinctions.**  
Chapter 4, Fossils and Evolution, pages 87-91.  
**Lab #7:** Mollusca. (begin).
- 16T (16) **Lophophorata. Brachiopoda. Bryozoa.**  
Chapter 10, Brachiopods. Pages 182-200.  
Chapter 15, Bryozoans. Pages 267-277.  
**Lab #7:** Mollusca. (finish).
- 18Th (17) **LAB EXAM #1.**  
**Lab #8:** Echinodermata. (begin).
- 23T (18) **Mollusca I. Bivalvia (or Pelecypoda).**  
Chapter 8, Bivalves and Gastropods. Pages 136-158.  
**Lab #8:** Echinodermata. (finish).
- Oct. 25Th (19) **Mollusca II. Gastropods. Cephalapods.**  
Chapter 8, Bivalves and Gastropods. Pages 136-158.

- Chapter 9, Cephalopods. Pages 159-181.
- 30T (20) **EXAM 2.**  
**Lab #9:** Chordata. (begin).
- Nov. 01Th (21) **Echinodermata.**  
Chapter 11, Echinoderms. Pages 201-219.  
**Lab #9:** Chordata. (finish).
- 03T (22) **Paleoecology.**  
Chapter 22, Studies in Paleoenvironmental Analysis. Pages 355-371.  
**Lab #10:** Plantae. (begin).
- 08Th (23) **Early Chordata.**  
Chapter 14, Graptolites. Pages 253-266.  
**Lab #10:** Plantae. (finish).
- 13T (24) **Early and Lower Vertebrates.**  
Chapter 7, Introduction to the Fossil Record, pages 126-129.  
**LAB EXAM #2.**  
**Lab #11:** Canepatch Formation. Group project. (begin).
- 15Th (25) **Mammals.**  
Chapter 3, Figure 3.3, page 49.  
Chapter 4, Box 4.4, page 78.  
**Lab #11:** Canepatch Formation. Group project.(continue).
- 20T (26) **Plantae.**  
**Lab #11:** Canepatch Formation. Group project.(continue).
- 22Th **NO CLASS. Thanksgiving.**
- 27T (27) **More evolution.** Microevolution. Macroevolution.  
Chapter 4, Evolution. Pages 67-92.  
**Lab #11:** Canepatch Formation. Group project. (finish).
- Dec. 02Th (28) **Evolution and Humans.** Last Day of Class.  
Review previous labs. Review of course.
- 11T **FINAL EXAM. 8:00 pm.**  
The class may schedule the Final Exam earlier this evening IF all students agree AND a classroom is available.