

Welcome aboard! In this course we will explore the immense history of Earth, its rocks, and the living things that have evolved on it. Our voyage is a series of visits to 28 distant and exotic ports of call. At each port we'll travel further back in time and along the branches of the evolutionary Tree of Life as we meet ever more distant relatives of our species, all the way back to the origin of life and Earth. We'll hear about recent human history and culture at each port, but the emphasis will be on the geology and evolution that have shaped our planet and its life over 4.5 billion years.

Instructor: Eric Gaidos gaidos@hawaii.edu You can email me questions anytime and I will try to answer it as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours.

Textbook: None.

This course is entirely online. You access the online course materials through Laulima, so you are required to learn how to use it: <https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal> . Once you login with your UH username/password there is a short Laulima tutorial that is started by clicking on the small figure in the upper right-hand corner of web page. To enter the course you must click on the tab labeled *GG-101-001* and make selections in the sidebar (e.g. *Syllabus, Resources, Assessments*). There is a calendar which will contain reminders of due dates! Your computer must also be able to display PDF files (e.g. with Adobe Acrobat) and play MPEG audio files (e.g. with iTunes).

Online lectures: Each of the 28 lectures will be available as a PDF file containing the slides and an audio file (MPEG) containing the narration. You should open up the PDF, start the audio file in a player, and proceed through the slides as directed by the narration. You can pause or restart the audio file anytime or anywhere you wish.

Quizzes: Each lecture is accompanied by a 10-question quiz consisting of true/false or multiple-choice questions. The quizzes are "open notes", and there is no time limit. For full credit, each quiz is due by the end of the due date Honolulu time. **Quizzes submitted after that time, but before the semester's end, will receive half credit.**

Final project: Each student will complete a virtual tour of the geology or biology of a place of particular interest to them. Any place outside of the Hawai'ian islands is permitted, whether you have visited or not. It's a big world – explore it online! Students can choose to use Google My Maps or Google Earth. Tours will be scored based on (1) science content, (2) technical quality, and (3) creativity. Instructions and guidelines on constructing and sharing the tour, and some do's and don'ts, are in a separate guide.

Grading: Grading is not on a curve. The final grade is based on the 28 quizzes, each counting for 2%, and the final project, which counts for 44% of the grade. Letter grades are assigned as follows: 90+% = A, 80+% = B, 70+% = C, 60+% = D. If a final score is within 2% of the next highest letter grade a "+" is added. No other adjustments will be considered. **There is no extra credit in this course.**

Kokua: If you have a disability and related access needs, please contact the KOKUA program (UH Disabled Student Services Office) at 956-7511, KOKUA@hawaii.edu or go to Room 013 in the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Academic Integrity and Ethical Behavior: Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, tampering, plagiarism, or facilitating such activities. Failure to meet this expectation will result in failure of the course and possible dismissal from the University. Plagiarism means using another's words, ideas, materials or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing the rules governing the use of another's work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately. See the UH General and Graduate Information Catalog under "Student Regulations" and the UH Student Conduct Code for specific guidelines related to ethical behavior: http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/

Sexual Harassment: The University of Hawai'i is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, the University has staff and resources on your campus to support and assist you. Staff can also direct you to resources that are in the community. **As members of the University faculty, your instructors are required to immediately report any incident of potential sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator.** Although the Title IX Coordinator and your instructors cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need. If you wish to remain ANONYMOUS, speak with someone CONFIDENTIALLY, or would like to receive information and support in a CONFIDENTIAL setting, see: <http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/resources.html#confidential>. If you wish to directly REPORT an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking as well as receive information and support, contact: Dee Uwono Title IX Coordinator (808) 956-2299 t9uhm@hawaii.edu or contact the instructor to go to the Title IX office.

Confidential Reporting: University of Hawaii students, faculty and staff have an important resource to confidentially report violations of laws, rules, regulations and UH policies. A whistleblower hotline launched in June 2016 further advances the university's commitment to encourage and enable any member of UH or the general public to make good faith reports of misconduct. University of Hawaii Whistleblower website:

<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/40480/index.html>

UH Whistleblower Hotline: 1-855-874-2849. For more information go to UH News at <http://go.hawaii.edu/coj>