

**OGLALA LAKOTA COLLEGE**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS & ADMINISTRATION**

**Fall 2015**

**Rebuilding the Lakota Nation through Education**

**Wounspe Ihuniyan Hci Lakota Oyate Kin Akta Ic'icakagapi Kte lo**

**Name of Course:** Historical Geology **Course Number:** Geol 153

**Department:** Math, Science, & Technology **Credit Hours:** 3 (yamni)

**Location:** pictel between Pine Ridge and He Sapa college centers **Time & Day:** Monday 9 am -12 pm

**Instructor:** Dr. Hannan E. LaGarry **Email:** hlagarry@olc.edu

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**Office:** MST Offices at Piya Wiconi **Office Hours:** Mon 12:00 -1:00 CC Fri 1-4 PW PW

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**Course Description (Waunspe Oyakapi):** This course surveys the geological history of Earth, with special emphasis on the geological history of the Black Hills and the Pine Ridge Reservation. Topics will include:

- 1) the history, philosophy, and methods of geology as an historical science,
- 2) the origins and evolution of life on Earth as shown by the fossil record, and
- 3) the origins and history of the Black Hills and badlands.

Field trips to the badlands will complement topics covered in lecture.

**Prerequisites:** None (but see expectations below)

**Required Text and Materials:** Reading materials for this class will be found in the latest edition of Prothero & Dott "Evolution of the Earth" on the world-wide web at <http://www.palaeos.com/index>

**Course Goal:** Students will gain a better understanding of the physical and natural world by understanding geologic time.

**Learning Objectives (Wounspe Taku Unspepi Kte Kin He Le E):** Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Explain the scientific method as applied to geological evidence;
2. Describe in general terms the history and philosophy of historical science;
3. Describe in general terms the history of life on Earth as demonstrated by the fossil record;
4. Interpret in general terms the geological history of the Black Hills and badlands.

**Assessment:** The course will be assessed using the fossil collection project.

**Instructional Methodology:** The course will be taught via polycom between Pine Ridge and He Sapa college centers. Weekly instruction includes topical lectures and open-forum-discussions. Field trips to the badlands will reinforce classroom concepts.

**Course Rationale:** This course is a core requirement for the Earth Science emphasis within the Bachelor of Natural Sciences degree. Historical geology provides the student with knowledge of Earth's history, which is necessary to succeed in a baccalaureate degree in Earth Science and graduate study in geology.

**Homework:** Each student should expect to spend two (nunpa) to three (yamni) hours out of class on reading assignments each week for every hour of class time (each credit hour) in order to be successful. Therefore, if a course is three (yamni) credit hours you should spend approximately six (sakpe) hours outside of the classroom on required readings. However, every student differs in their individual skills, educational background, experience, capability and personal goals; so the amount of time you must dedicate to out of class work can vary significantly from this national average.

**Reading Load:** Students are expected to read three (yamni) textbook chapter per week or its equivalent.

**Type & Amount of Writing Load:** Essay questions on exams require answering questions in complete sentences. One field report write-up will be of three to five pages

**Lakota Perspective Provided Through:** This course stresses **Wolakolakiciapi** of “learning Lakota ways of life in the community”. This course is based on the values of mutual respect and generosity (woohola na wochantognakapi), seeking to advance each individual’s knowledge through their continuing hard work (fortitude- wowalitake) and willingness to learn new information and viewpoints, as well as to demonstrate it, by speaking in front of the group (bravery-woohitike); all undertaken in an environment of truthfulness, trust, integrity and humility. We will do this by embracing the teaching of our ancestors as we learn new ways. (Waunspe wicakiyapi ki iglutanyan ihani unpi kun hena itan waunspe tokeca uha ayin kte.)

**Evaluation and Grading:** Student performance will be evaluated with two cumulative examinations. Students will also be required to participate in a fossil collection “laboratory” and at least one, possibly two all-day field trips scheduled on Fridays, each in lieu of the weekly lecture.

Cumulative exams 70% of Final Grade

Fossil collection/field trip(s) 20%

Open-forum discussion 10% of Final Grade

A = Superior Quality Work = Demonstrated concept mastery by scoring 90% or better.

B = Good Quality Work = Demonstrated concept mastery by scoring 80-89%.

C = Satisfactory Quality Work = Demonstrated concept mastery by scoring 70-79%.

D = Marginal Quality Work = Demonstrated weak concept mastery by scoring 60-69%

F = Unacceptable Quality work = 59%.

W = Withdrawal = A student may withdraw from a course by filling out a Drop Card to be recorded by the Registrar. The student must sign this form if you drop yourself. A Drop Card may/can be filled out and signed by a counselor/instructor for lack of attendance.

#### **College Policy on Grading and Change of Grades:**

[http://www.olec.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.olec.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see pages 10 and 11

**Course Requirements, Expectations or Students:** Because OLC offers classes in three-hour blocks once per week, (for everyone’s travel convenience), if you are absent from one OLC class session, it’s like missing three classes at another college. (See student handbook). You are expected to participate in class discussion; this provides evidence of your interest in and preparation for the class. It also helps gauge the effectiveness of the instruction and everyone’s level of comprehension of the material presented. Most importantly, fellow class members benefit from your opinions and insights; in addition, the questions you ask may be about the same topic with which other students are having difficulty, so by helping yourself you also help them. If the Instructor is not present at the beginning of the class, and the College Center Staff has not heard from the Instructor, you should wait at least 30 minutes past the normal start-time and then if the Instructor has still not arrived, you may leave.

**Attendance and Tardiness**

[http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see pages 7 and 8

**Policies on Academic Honesty**

[http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see page 46

**Standards of Conduct Policy**

[http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see page 38

**ADA Policy**

[http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see pages 37 and 38

**Electronic Information Resources Acceptable Use Guidelines**

[http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.oll.edu/~jchasinghawk/registrar/docs/student_handbook.pdf) see page 41-46

**TOPICAL CONTENT**

Okon Wanci Introduction to Historical Geology, science as a Way of Knowing, the scientific method, and science as a process. Preview the website [www.palaeos.com/index](http://www.palaeos.com/index)

Okon Nunpa The Universe and Solar System, the formation of the Earth and moon, and the distribution of elements in the Solar System. Web pages 1-3

Okon Yamni Early theories on the formation of the Earth and the fossil record, radiometric dating and the geological time scale. Web pages 4-6.

Okon Topa Fossilization and the fossil record, mutation and variation, the Precambrian fossil record, the Eocambrian, and the Cambrian Explosion. Web pages 7-9.

Okon Zaptan Review and distribute cumulative Exam 1, web pages 10-12.

Okon Sakpe Life of the Paleozoic and Mesozoic Eras, web pages 13-15.

Okon Sakowin Life of the Cenozoic Era and climate change, web pages 16-18.

Okon Saglogan Exam 1 (Midterm Exam) due, web pages 19-21.

Okon Napcinyunka Geological history of the Black Hills and Badlands I, web pages 22-24.

Okon Wikcemna Geological history of the Black Hills and Badlands II, web pages 25-27.

Okon Ake Wanci Fossil Record of the South Dakota Badlands I, web pages 28-30.

Okon Ake Nunpa Fossil record of the South Dakota Badlands II.

Okon Ake Yamni Field trip to Red Shirt Table/Battle Creek Complete a field trip report.

Okon Ake Topa (Time and weather permitting) Field trip to Badlands National Park or review. Complete a field trip report

Okon Ake Zaptan Cumulative Final Exam due.

**Disclaimer:** Information contained in this syllabus was, to the best knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use at the beginning of the semester. However, this syllabus should not be considered a contract between Oglala Lakota College and any student. The instructor reserves the right to make changes in course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. Students will be informed of any such changes. Additional student rights and responsibilities are outlined in the Student Handbook.

[http://www.olc.edu/~wwhitedress/studentervices/Docs/OLC\\_Handbook.pdf](http://www.olc.edu/~wwhitedress/studentervices/Docs/OLC_Handbook.pdf)