Petroleum Geology and Fossil Fuels
GEOL5332

Name: Dr. Julie M. Bloxson
Email: BloxsonJM@sfasu.edu
Phone: (936) 468-2355
Office: E.L. Miller Science Building, Rm 309
Department: Geology
Office Hours: MW 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; TTh 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm; By Apt. All office hours are by zoom, unless scheduling an apt.
Time: Lecture M 1:30 pm – 3:10 pm Room 323
Lab M 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm Room 332 or otherwise told

Text and Materials
3. Calculator
4. Color pencils

Course Overview
1. Two take home exams
2. Weekly lab exercises are due the following week in lab
3. Project
4. Read your SFASU email

Introduction to Petroleum Geology and Fossils Fuels will provide a foundation in Petroleum geology and Coal geology. We will explore a brief history of petroleum exploration, how hydrocarbons are preserved and generated in a variety of sedimentary environments, various pathways they may take during migration, and corresponding trapping mechanism. The course will review the various types of hydrocarbons (crude oil, propane, ethane, etc.), and students will learn their physical and chemical properties. We will overview exploration techniques including well drilling, wireline logging, and seismic interpretation. Unconventional hydrocarbon resources will also be studied. Finally, coal resources, methane clathrates, and other fossil fuels will be introduced.

You are expected to have read the material for the week outlined below, which will facilitate in content retention and aid in classroom discussions. I will also provide some supplemental material throughout the semester that is expected to be read before the designated class. These will consist of scientific research articles, excerpts from other books, and short course documents. There will be a combination of homework exercises and in-class exercises, along with periodically meeting in the computer lab to facilitate content.

Please limit food in the classroom, phone calls (silence phones), texting, and other distracting behaviors. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

COVID-19 MASK POLICY Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave
the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Grading Policy
100-90% A
89-80% B
79-70% C
69-60% D
59-0% F

Tests
There will be two tests that will be taken home and turned back in a week later. Makeup tests can only be given in written documented exceptional situations. First exam will cover

Labs (about 9 worth 40 pts each; 280-360 pts total)
Lab runs the full period. There will be between 7-9 labs, each worth 40 points unless otherwise designated. You will need a calculator and colored pencils for lab regularly. Labs will be due the following week in lab. We will use both 323 and 332 (computer lab) as needed. The labs are meant to be hands-on where we will be using common techniques to explore the subsurface. These labs also will be using common computer programs.

Homework
Homework may occasionally be issued, and will be due at the time announce in class. Each assignment is worth 10 points.

Term Project
As a graduate student, there will be a term project that will be worth 100 pts due at the end of the semester. More information will be provided later in the semester.

Attendance Policy
Attendance in mandatory, and necessary in order to succeed in class. In-class assignments can only be made up with an excused and documented absence. Homework assignments need to be turned in on their due date, and will have 10% deducted for every day late. After 5 days late, they will no longer be accepted. To make-up an exam, only excused absences will be accepted (doctor’s note, sporting event, etc., with proper documentation). We will arrange a time and place for the make-up exam, which will be a different exam than the one given in class.

Course Description
Two hours lecture plus 2.5 hour lab. An introduction to Fossil Fuels, with an emphasis on hydrocarbon generation and exploration techniques. Topics will include properties of hydrocarbons; preservation conditions and migration pathways; source rocks, reservoir rocks and trapping mechanisms; common exploration techniques such as wireline logging and seismic interpretation; and an overview on the
preservation and exploration of other fossil fuels, such as coal, unconventional hydrocarbons, tar sands, and methane clathrates.
Prerequisites: GOL 408 (sedimentology and stratigraphy)

### Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading for Next Class</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>24-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction to Petroleum Geology</td>
<td>Selley 1 &amp; 2, Bjorlykke 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Well Logging pt 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>31-Aug</td>
<td>Petroleum Geochem</td>
<td>Bjorlykke 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Well Logging pt 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7-Sep</td>
<td>Sedimentary Geochem</td>
<td>Selley 4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Resistivity and SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>14-Sep</td>
<td>Subsurface Environment</td>
<td>Selley 5.1-5.3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Facies Correlation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>21-Sep</td>
<td>Petroleum Generation</td>
<td>Selley 5.4-5.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sequence Strat Correlation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>28-Sep</td>
<td>Petroleum Migration</td>
<td>Selley 6.1-6.9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Subsurface Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5-Oct</td>
<td>Reservoirs</td>
<td>Selley 7.1-7.11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Principles of Seismic Interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td>Traps &amp; Seals</td>
<td>8.1-8.5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Seismic in Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>19-Oct</td>
<td>Basins &amp; Systems</td>
<td>8.6-8.8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Seismic in Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>26-Oct</td>
<td>Basins &amp; Systems</td>
<td>9.1-9.7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Basin Scale Architecture Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2-Nov</td>
<td>Non-conventional Resources</td>
<td>Thomas 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Shale Geochem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>9-Nov</td>
<td>Coal - Origin, Age, Occurrence, Substance</td>
<td>Thomas 8.1-8.5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Shale Geochem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>16-Nov</td>
<td>Geophysics of Coal</td>
<td>Bachu 2000</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Geophysical Log Interp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>23-Nov</td>
<td>No Class Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td>No Class Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>30-Nov</td>
<td>Carbon Capture and Storage</td>
<td>Supplemental Material</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>7-Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finals Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note that topics and date of topics are subject to change. I will try to keep you updated.*

### Credit Hour Justification

Meets for a minimum of 25 lecture contact hours during the semester, including the final exam. The lecture and laboratory must be completed concurrently. The grades for lecture and laboratory are combined into one single grade for the course. Students are required to complete assignments based on selected readings, along with periodic quizzes, and exams over the course content, along with a mandatory field trip. Successful complete of all elements for the course (both lecture and laboratory) requires at least six hours of additional out-of-class work each week.

### Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify different types of hydrocarbons, and describe their physical and chemical properties.
2. Use geologic methods to determine and identify hydrocarbon depositional environments.
3. Complete basic wireline logging interpretations of the subsurface using knowledge of rock formation properties and physics, and identify fluid types in the subsurface.
4. Identify different types of coal and their physical and chemical properties.
5. Determine the depositional environment and timing of coal preservation.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental geoscience concepts. (Concepts)
2. Execute geoscience procedures and methods accurately, appropriately, and safely. (Geoscience Skills)
3. Demonstrate proficiency in interpretation and communication of geoscience information. (Scientific Communication)
4. Apply concepts, skills, and scientific communication to identify, analyze, and interpret geoscience phenomena. (Research)

Academic Integrity (4.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy 5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/. 