Instructor: Wesley Turner
Room 307 Miller Science Building
(936) 468-1049
turnerwl@sfasu.edu
Office hours: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Tues. through Fri.
Department: Geology
Meeting Place: Room 323
Meeting Time: Mondays 5:30-6:20 PM

Course Description: One semester hour course focused on developing improved oral technical, professional, academic, and interviewing skills for seniors in geology. A participatory seminar exposing students to industry professionals and academics in various fields of along with completing assignments and experiences associated with career and academic development in order to prepare students to utilize a degree in geology. Pre-requisites: GOL 242, GOL 243, and senior standing.

Program Learning Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental core geologic concepts (Mineralogy, Petrology, Structural Geology, Stratigraphy, Geophysics and Geochemistry). (Concepts)
2. Execute geologic procedures and methods accurately, appropriately and efficiently. (Skills)
3. Apply principles of logic and reasoning to develop and analyze geologic problems. (Logical - Reasoning)
4. Demonstrate competence in using various geologic tools, including technology, to formulate, represent, and solve problems. (Critical thinking - Problem Solving)
5. Demonstrate proficiency in communicating geologic information in an appropriate form to the expected audience. (Communication)

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate competency in scientific communication;
2. Demonstrate preparation to pursue a professional career and/or graduate degree;
3. Demonstrate understanding of geologic fields and professional ethics;
4. Demonstrate competency in critical thinking through effective scientific written reports and oral presentations

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives. By enrolling in Geology Senior Seminar, you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that seeks to develop the following core objectives established by the THECB:
- Critical Thinking Skills – creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Teamwork** – the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

**Text and Materials:**
No textbook is required for this course. During the semester you will be expected to participate in professional activities such as a professional lunch and a mock interview where business casual dress is expected.

**Course Requirements:**
- **Resume and Cover Letter:**
  Students will prepare and submit a draft copy of their resume and a cover letter for review. Suggestions for improvement will be made by the faculty member and the resume and cover letter will be updated and resubmitted for grading.

- **Presentation:**
  Students will make a formal presentation before the class. The presentation will cover a topic of the students choosing that relates to a geoscience topic of interest and must be approved by the instructor.

**Course Calendar – Schedule contingent upon Alumni Talk dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction and Course Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-Aug</td>
<td>Professional Resume and Cover Letter Assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Sep</td>
<td>John Thompson - Alumni Talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resume and Cover Letter Draft Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-Sep</td>
<td>SFA Research Librarian Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-Sep</td>
<td>Interview Skills Primer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-Sep</td>
<td>Mock Interviews with Career Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Oct</td>
<td>Alumni Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Oct</td>
<td>Alumni Talk - Pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Oct</td>
<td>Alumni Talk - Pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Oct</td>
<td>Michelle Rimmel - Alumni Talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Nov</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Nov</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-Nov</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Nov</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Break (No Class)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Nov</td>
<td>Clint Walker - Alumni Talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Nov</td>
<td>Final Exams <strong>(No Class)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading Policy
Your final grade will be determined by summing the weighted averages of your grades in each of the categories below. Letter grades will be assigned as follows: A (90.0–100), B (80.0–89.9), C (70.0–79.9), D (60.0–69.9), F (< 60.0)
Oral presentation: 30% of course grade
Resume and Cover Letter First Draft: 20%
Resume and Cover Letter Final Draft: 25%
Attendance: 20
Participation: 5%
**Students must attend the special meetings times to pass the course (ex: ETGS Luncheon)

Attendance Policy:
Attendance is mandatory for each weekly meeting and event.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1):
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)
Please copy and paste the following information regarding Withheld Grades into your syllabus. Add additional information as needed to meet your departmental or course needs.

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
Please copy and paste the following statement and place in your course syllabus.
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/.

SFASU values students' mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SF A provides a variety of resources to support student's mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SF ASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741