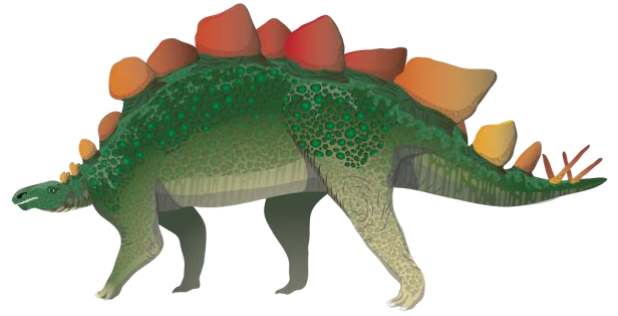


WELCOME to the WORLD of DINOSAURS!



Will this be the LAST science class you ever take?

Or will it be so fun you CHANGE your major (or minor)!?

Either way, our goal is to add a silly yet intellectually-challenging adventure to your semester.



The online format is new for COVID,
but we are pulling out the stops to make it AWESOME.



- Flexible schedule!
 - Upload your work by Thursday night, and call it good.
- Meet your classmates!
 - Auto-credit Zoom sessions to share ideas & questions.
- No Textbook!
 - We built you a custom plain-language wiki instead!



- **Optional in-person events!**
 - Visit the Tracy Aviary, Natural History Museum, or Museum of Ancient Life!
 - Café Dino every T/Th 12:45-1:25 in Fredrick Albert Sutton Building 375

Questions?
email: k.ritterbush@utah.edu

Preliminary Syllabus: World of Dinosaurs GEO 1040

Dr. Ritterbush

k.ritterbush@utah.edu

Section 001: Can be completed entirely online. In-person activities are optional.

Section 002: Students must attend one in-person session per week.

Café Dino: in-person discussion/coaching

- Tuesday & Thursday 12:45 – 1:25 PM.
- Masks required.
- Outdoors at FASB courtyard when weather permits
- Indoors at FASB 375

(Priority seating for those enrolled in Section 002. Contact Michelle for details: michelle.tuitupou@utah.edu.)

GEO 1040 requires:

- Access to our CANVAS page for weekly completion of online activities, quizzes, etc.
- Casual independent learning: 1 - 4 hours/week
- Deep thinking: 0.5 - 3 hours/week

GEO 1040 does NOT require:

- Synchronous viewing (lectures, etc.) Auto-credit peer-peer zoom meets can be opt-out.
- High-res desktop video downloads. There *will* be short videos on YouTube for mobile viewing.
- Purchase of a textbook. We built you a custom wiki to replace the textbook.

Course Overview for FALL 2020

Every Monday: We post content. Videos, discussion boards, wiki pages, etc. All fresh-baked for 2020!

Every Tuesday: We post challenges. Puzzles, activities, quizzes, etc.

Every Thursday: The challenges are DUE by MIDNIGHT.

Special Events: DIY and Meet-Up visits to the Aviary, Zoo, Museum, etc.

Your grade is based on:

- 60% _Completion-based challenges (Did you do it? Cool! Full Points!)
- 20% _Quality-based challenges (Did you do a good job?)
- 20% _Quizzes & Exams (Open-note, but you'll need to ACTUALLY think. Yay!)

Learning Goals

Dinosaur knowledge. Students will be able to:

- identify & distinguish a limited selection of particular dinosaur genera, and several broader clades of dinosaurs, based on anatomical & paleontological traits;
- summarize concepts about the evolution and ecology of dinosaurs;
- give examples of relevant observations and research approaches.

Ancient world knowledge. Students will be able to:

- recall intervals of geologic time and their order;
- recognize paleogeographic features and their relevance to dinosaur distributions;
- identify major differences & similarities between modern environments and the world of dinosaurs.

Scientific literacy. Students will be able to:

- distinguish observations and interpretations;
- explain the philosophy of hypothesis falsification and recognize examples;
- explain why accepted concepts change frequently in scientific research.

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Preliminary Schedule

Module	Week of...	Animal or Topic	Concept or Skill
What's a Dinosaur?	Aug 24 Aug 31	How do we organize life? What makes a BIRD a DINOSAUR?	Observations vs Interpretations Basal vs Derived
Scary Dinosaurs	Sept 7 Sept 14 Sept 21	Pointy Teeth: Big Theropods Pointy Claws: Little Theropods Long-Necks: Sauropods	Biomechanics Runaway Sexual Selection Convergence
Silly Dinosaurs	Sept 28 Oct 5 Oct 12	Body Armor: Thyreophorans Duck-Bills: Hadrosaurs Horns: Marginocephalians	Basal vs Derived Behavior Behavior
Paleontologist's Tool Kit	Oct 19 Oct 26 Nov 2 Nov 9	Geology & Sedimentology Plate Tectonics & Paleogeography Dating Plants	Cross-section Puzzles Globe Puzzles Orders-of-magnitude Co-evolution
Big Picture	Nov 16 Nov 23 Nov 30 Dec 7	The MESOZOIC [Thanksgiving] Mass Extinctions Finals Week	Paleobiogeography [fun game] Feedback Loops Final Assessments

Class Policies

Students in Section 002 are required to attend one weekly in-person session. Limited make-up in-person activities will be offered if needed.

Weekly Participation & Late Policies

- Students are expected to engage with class each week. Falling behind makes the whole thing a drag.
- Life happens. Each student gets 5 “little-bit-late” coupons, and 5 “a-lot-late” coupons.
 - Each activity will earn a credit for on-time completion.
 - At the end of the semester, students can apply coupons to boost the on-time score.
 - *If I turn everything in on time, can I use these for extra credit?* YES.
- For many activity categories (uploads, quizzes, etc.) we will automatically drop your lowest score.

Exceptions

If you are in crisis, or need to take time off, etc., please request a STUDENT SUCCESS advocate.

Phone: (801) 587-8556 **Email:** studentsuccess@utah.edu

The advocate will represent your needs, negotiate accommodations, & handle paperwork.

Academic Integrity

- Don't cheat.
- The easiest, fastest, and most fun way to get a good grade is to participate, ask questions, & learn.
- Getting someone else to take the course for you would defeat the point.
- Be constructive, honest, and helpful online. Cruel, rude, or offensive online behavior will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Additional Policies (check back for updates)

Impact of Online-Only Education on Visa or Scholarship Status

Some scholarships and student visas require that some or all of a students' credit hours must be in-person. If you need this course to satisfy this criterion, please enroll in SECTION 002. We are prepared to work with you to maintain these requirements in the event that Section 002 must go entirely online at any point this semester. Please contact me (k.ritterbush@utah.edu) as soon as you are comfortable doing so with your questions or concerns about maintaining these in-person requirements. **I will work with our department academic advisor to find the best information and a solution for you.**

Wear a Mask: Based on CDC guidelines, the university requires everyone to wear face coverings in shared public spaces on campus, including any classroom or **meeting place we designate for optional (Section 001) or required (Section 002) events.** When I wear a face covering, I am protecting you. **When you wear a face covering, you are protecting me and all of your classmates.** If you forget your face covering, I will ask you to leave class to retrieve it. If you repeatedly fail to wear a face covering in class, I will refer you to the Dean of Students for a possible violation of the Student Code. Note that some students may qualify for accommodations through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you think you meet these criteria and desire an exception to the face covering policy, contact the Center for Disability and Access (CDA). **Accommodations should be obtained prior to the first day of class so that I am notified by CDA of any students who are not required to wear a face covering.**

Statement Concerning Disabilities: "The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations." (www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty).

Faculty and Student Responsibilities: "All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee."

"Faculty... must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning." PPM 8-12.3, B.

"Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning." PPM 8-10, II. A.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: "Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS)."

"University Safety Statement. The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu."

Undocumented Student Support Statement. Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.