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The Course: Seminar on current topics in the geosciences. Course requires attendance of departmental visiting speaker series, reading and analysis of related scholarly publications, and oral/written reports.

Prerequisite: By permission. Students will receive one credit per semester.

Course Learning Objectives: At the end of this course you will be able to:
• Critically read examples from the published literature and lead a discussion appertaining thereto;
• Place the various topics presented in the visiting lecture series in the context of your formal course work.

Requirements:
1. Majors must enroll in both fall and spring semesters;
2. Attendance is required of each semester's visiting lecture presentations (usually Monday afternoons);
3. Attendance of a discussion section the week after (or when scheduled), where an article related to the upcoming seminar and provided by the speaker will be discussed;
4. Discussion leaders will be assigned for each article/topic;
5. Submit a five page end of semester paper (second semester) that integrates the topics covered in the seminars with what was covered in formal geology coursework; I will work with you on drafts of this paper.

Grading:
A = attends all seminars and discussion sections; satisfactory discussion leader and participant; well written synthesis final paper
B= misses either one seminar or discussion section or adequate performance as discussion leader or participant or adequate written synthesis.
C= misses either two seminars or discussion sections or unsatisfactory performance as above or poorly written synthesis paper.
D= misses more than two seminars and/or discussion sections, or unsatisfactory performance as above.