

EESA06 – Introduction to Planet Earth – Course Schedule Winter 2015

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
1	January 5	Outline of course and scope of ‘geoscience’ and why it matters. What geoscientists do.	Chapters 1 - 4
2	January 12	<i>Continental drift vs. plate tectonics.</i> The life cycle of continents and oceans: the basic rhythm of planet Earth.	Chapters 1 - 4
3	January 19	<i>Probing the Earth’s deep interior:</i> the mantle and the core.	Chapters 1 - 4
4	January 26	<i>How continents breakup and oceans are born:</i> The African Rift from Kenya, Ethiopia, Egypt, Jordan, Israel and Turkey.	Chapter 2 and CBC Geologic Journey Episode 2: “ <i>Along the African Rift</i> ”
5	February 2	<i>How oceans widen and mature:</i> Iceland and the Atlantic Ocean.	Chapter 2 and CBC Geologic Journey Episode 1: “ <i>Tectonic Europe</i> ”
6	February 9	<i>When continents collide and oceans die:</i> the beginning of the next supercontinent: Pangea II. The Mediterranean Sea and Pacific Ocean; from Italy to New Zealand, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Alaska, California and Chile.	Chapter 2 and CBC Geologic Journey episodes: 3 “ <i>The Western Pacific Rim</i> ”; 4 <i>Pacific Rim Americas</i> ”; 5 “ <i>Collision Zone: Asia</i> ”.
	February 16	Reading Week – No Class	
7	February 23	<i>(cont’d) How oceans die:</i> the beginning of the next supercontinent: Pangea II. The Mediterranean Sea and Pacific Ocean; from Italy to New Zealand, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Alaska, California and Chile	Chapter 2 and CBC Geologic Journey episodes: 3 “ <i>The Western Pacific Rim</i> ”; 4 <i>Pacific Rim Americas</i> ”; 5 “ <i>Collision Zone: Asia</i> ”.
8	March 2	<i>Geologic time:</i> how we date the past.	Chapters 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 19.
9	March 9	Poster presentation. Planet Earth Conference: Ontario: 3 billion years of environmental changes.	Chapters 16, 20 http://planetrocks.ca
10	March 16	<i>Geological history of Canada and Ontario:</i> 4 billion years of environmental change	Chapters 16 and 20.
11	March 23	<i>(cont’d) Geological history of Canada and Ontario:</i> 4 billion years of environmental changes.	Chapters 16 and 20.
12	March 30	<i>Environmental geoscience:</i> dealing with environmental problems	
13	April 6th	<i>Careers in environmental geoscience: Exam Revision</i>	