Welcome to GEO 217 – Invertebrate Paleontology. Although I will not be present, class begins on Monday 31 August. This file contains instructions that will allow you to get going with the course, as well as the course syllabus. Everything you need to do on the first day involves reading materials obtained from the course web page – which you already have accessed if you are reading this. I will be back on campus for class at 9 a.m. Tuesday morning. There are three tasks to accomplish on Monday:

1) Read through the course information and syllabus provided here. Note there is an all-day field trip on the first Wednesday.

2) Click on the “Readings and Links” link on the course home page and retrieve all of the files listed under “Earliest Life and Burgess Shale”. Note the links containing “(pictures)” will provide you with papers that you are to browse to get an idea of what some of the fossils discussed actually look like; reading these papers is optional. Reading the other papers is not optional, and they should be read in the order in which the links are listed (Stromatolites; Ediacaran 1, 2; Burgess Shale 1, 2, Ordovician Radiation). Please read the papers on Monday so you will be ready to discuss them on Tuesday morning at 9 a.m.

3) Click on the “Extinction Seminar” link on the course home page and read the instructions.

SEE YOU TUESDAY!

Ben Greenstein
GEOLOGY 217 INVERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY
Course information and syllabus

Instructor: Ben Greenstein

Office: Norton 108, Office hours TBA

Meeting Times: We will meet mornings 9-11, and afternoons 1:15-3, although class meetings may not last the entire time.

Field Trip: There is one required field trip to a quarry near Troy Mills on Wednesday, 2 September. The van departs from the Commons at 8:45 AM. we will return between 3-4 p.m.

Required reading materials:

Please read Raup's book by the end of the first week of the block.

General reference books in lab room
Boardman, R.S., Cheetham, A. H., and Rowell, A. J. (eds.) Fossil Invertebrates, Blackwell Scientific
Beerbower, J. R., 1968, Search for the past. Prentice-Hall, N. Y.

Evaluation: I will use a variety of methods to assess your performance in this course. Graded work will include lecture and lab exams, written assignments an oral presentation and a curated fossil collection. **I will not grade any work turned in late!** Enthusiasm and thoughtful participation in discussions, lab and on the field trip count, even if only subjectively. Formula for grading will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foram project</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab exams (2)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fossil collection/paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion/paper</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar presentation/paper</td>
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Cornell College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students. If you have a documented learning disability and will need any accommodation in this course, you must request the accommodation(s) from me as early as possible and no later than the third day of the term. Visit http://cornellcollege.edu/academic_affairs/disabilities for more information about the policies and procedures for accommodation of learning disabilities.
COURSE SCHEDULE

Unless listed otherwise, readings in parentheses refer to course text

DAY 1
NO CLASS – Reading assignments for Tuesday’s lecture and Extinction seminar handed out

DAY 2
AM: Origin of life, Cambrian explosion, Burgess Shale (Handouts)
PM: Taphonomy (Chap. 1)

DAY 3 ALL DAY Field Trip: Troy Mills Quarry

DAY 4 AM/PM: Taxonomy (Chap. 4)

DAY 5 AM: Fossil Populations I (Chaps. 2, 3, 5); papers handed out for Tuesday discussion
PM: Trace Fossils (Chap. 18)

DAY 6
AM: Extinction seminar, oral presentations (seminar paper due, 9 a.m.)
PM: Fossil populations II (Chaps. 2, 3, 5)

DAY 7
AM: Fossil populations III (Chap. 8, pp. 141-146)
PM: Discussion: Phanerozoic Diversity

DAY 8
AM: Protoctista - foram project handed out (Chap. 11, handout); (paper due, 9 a.m.)
PM: Porifera (Chap. 12)

DAY 9
AM Cnidaria (Chap. 12)
PM: Catch-up as needed

DAY 10
AM: Lecture exam
PM: Lab exam

DAY 11
AM/PM: Lophophorates: Brachiopods and Bryozoans (Chap. 13)

DAY 12
AM/PM: Introduction to molluscs: Bivalves (Chap. 15)

DAY 13
AM/PM: Gastropods and Cephalopods (Chap. 15) Foram projects due, 3 p.m.

DAY 14
AM/PM: Arthropods (Chap. 14)

DAY 15
AM/PM: Echinoderms (Chap. 16)

DAY 16
Fossil collection/paper due, 9 a.m. Catch-up as needed

DAY 17
Lab exam, 9 a.m.

DAY 18
Final Exam, 9 a.m.