

G410 / G510 Topics: Frontiers in Planetary Science

REMOTE

Spring 2021

CRN 61341 (G410) / CRN 61350 (G510)

Location:

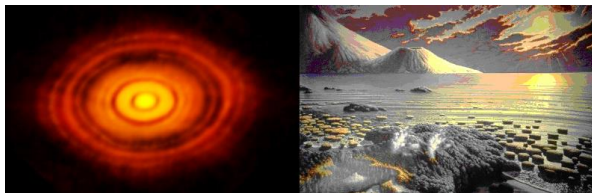
Portland State University

On line via D2L:

https://my.pdx.edu/student/school_tools/index

or

<https://d2l.pdx.edu/d2l/home/859694>



Instructor: Dr. Alex Ruzicka

Course Description: This course will focus on areas of active research in the planetary sciences on topics that have not yet made it into the Textbooks. Three main themes will be covered: 1) the formation of planetary systems, 2) the accretion and differentiation of planets, and 3) the geologic and atmospheric evolution of planets. As appropriate for these themes, content will range widely, including aspects of astronomy, geology, and climate. Students will prepare researched presentations. **This originally hybrid course will be offered entirely in remote fashion, via the D2L (Desire to Learn) learning platform, which can be accessed by using a PSU login at the web addresses given above.**

Text: None. Content will be delivered through D2L.

Exams: Timed quizzes will be held on D2L for videos. All quizzes will be multiple choice. Two tries will be permitted for each quiz, with the average score used to determine grades.

Zoom meetings: The single weekly in-class period has been replaced with Zoom videoconferencing. This will be an important part of the course for discussion of readings and for presentation work. Participation points (attendance and engagement in discussions) will be assigned for these zoom meetings.

Annotated bibliography and critique: To help facilitate research on a presentation topic, students will first prepare an annotated bibliography of papers that might be useful for their presentation, and then will offer constructive comments for improvements of the bibliographies prepared by others. Both will be posted on D2L.

Pre-presentation and critique: To help improve presentations, students will prepare a “pre-presentation” Powerpoint of their presentation topic, and will then offer constructive comments of the pre-presentations of others. Both will be posted on D2L.

Final presentation: Students will present a final presentation of their topic, which will be posted on D2L and also presented orally to the remainder of the class during Finals week (the presentation will take the place of the Final).

Other policies: (a) If you feel you have a disability and need an accommodation, contact the Disability Resource Center (drc@pdx.edu, 503-725-4150). (b) Each student is responsible for all of the content covered online and in the Zoom meetings. (c) A culture of professionalism and mutual respect is expected. Any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, can be reported to the Office of Equity and Compliance, or the Office of the Dean of Student Life. For resources, see <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/get-help>. (d) Students are expected to follow PSU policies for academic integrity, which means not engaging in academic

misconduct; see <https://www.pdx.edu/dos/academic-misconduct>. Examples of misconduct include cheating on an exam, copying someone else's work, submitting for credit work done by someone else, or knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above.

Grades: Grading is done on a straight scale although curves will be used at my discretion. Grades will be assigned based on scores as follows: 95% or above = A, 90-94.99% = A-, 87-89.99% = B+, 83-86.99% = B, 80-82.99% = B-, 77-79.99% = C+, 73-76.99% = C, 70-72.99% = C-, 67-69.99% = D+, 63-66.99% = D, 60-62.99% = D-, less than 60% = F. I generally do not give "I" grades. This class can be taken Pass/No Pass. If you elect to change your grading option, please inform me in writing. Letter grades will correspond to the standards given in the PSU course catalog. Grades will be determined from performances on:

Quizzes.....	30%
Zoom activities & participation.....	20%
Annotated bibliography exercise.....	5%
Critique of annotated bibliography.....	5%
Pre-presentation.....	10%
Critique of pre-presentation.....	5%
Presentation	25%

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE (see course website and D2L for changes)

	Zoom meeting (Monday 2 PM)	Online (see D2L for specifics)
Week 1	3/29 Welcome, navigating the course, discussion of potential presentation topics	Watch/read Theme 1 / Week 1 videos & papers
Week 2	4/5 Discussion of Week 1 papers	Watch/read Theme 1 / Week 2 videos & papers
Week 3	4/12 Discussion of Week 2 papers	Watch/read Theme 2 / Week 3 videos & papers
Week 4	4/19 Discussion of Week 3 papers	Watch/read Theme 2 & 3 / Week 4 videos & papers
Week 5	4/26 Discussion of Week 4 papers; decide on topics for presentations	Watch/read Theme 3 / Week 5 videos & papers
Week 6	5/3 Discussion of Week 5 papers, discuss guidelines for annotated bibliographies	Watch/read Theme 3 / Week 6 videos & papers, post annotated bibliography
Week 7	5/10 Discussion of Week 6 papers, discuss guidelines for Powerpoint presentations	Critique annotated bibliography
Week 8	5/17 Check in	Work on presentations
Week 9	5/25 Check in	Post pre-presentations, critique pre-presentations
Week 10	5/31 Memorial Day Holiday, NO CLASS	Post Final presentations
Finals		Oral Presentation Wed June 9 12:30-14:20