

# GEOLOGY 407/507

## Colloquium

CRN 11380/11389 (1 credit), Fall 2020

Location: Portland State University,  
**Remote access via Zoom invite,  
link to be made available by instructor**

Instructor: Dr. Alex Ruzicka  
email: ruzickaa@pdx.edu



Image obtained Sol 1819 by the Curiosity rover on Mars at Vera Rubin Ridge in Gale Crater, with brush mark showing hematite-rich rock with white sulfate veins. Credit: NASA.

Course description: The theme of this semester's Geology Department colloquium will be **"All Things Extraterrestrial—and what we Learn From It"**. Talks will include presentations on meteorites, Mars, and how the impact flux from space can affect climate on Earth. They will be accessible via the Zoom platform, with links to access the Zoom presentations made available to students enrolled in this course as well as faculty and students from the wider university community.

Grades: Grading is Pass/No Pass only, and will be determined based largely on attendance, which is required. In addition, enrolled students should send an email to the instructor between November 25-December 6 (note **deadline is December 6**) with some impressions of what they thought about the colloquium. Possible topics for this email could be whether talks were too technical or too general, what you liked best or least, whether there were any difficulties with Zoom that caused major problems, whether you would have recommended the presentations to your peers, etc. Attendance will be weighted 90% and the email impressions 10% of the total grade. A Pass for this course will require a score of at least 70/100.

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 attendance. If you have technical difficulty, please contact the instructor to report on the problem. (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>.

**SPEAKER SCHEDULE.** All talks begin at 3:30 PM Pacific Time except for the November 25 presentation, which begins at 10 AM Pacific Time.

Date	Speaker / Affiliation	Topic
Oct. 7	Alan Rubin / UCLA	"Origin of chondrules"
Oct. 14	Allan Treiman / Lunar & Planetary Institute	<i>Curiosity</i> Exploration of Mars, CheMin Experiment
Oct. 21	Carl Agee / Institute of Meteoritics, U. New Mexico.	"Northwest Africa 7034 aka Black Beauty: Unique Water-rich Meteorite from Ancient Mars"
Oct. 28	Philipp Heck / Field Museum of Natural History, U. Chicago	Extraterrestrial Flux and Ice Age on Earth

Nov. 4	Kenneth Farley / Jet Propulsion Laboratory	"The Mars 2020 Perseverance Mission: first step in Mars Sample Return"
Nov. 18	Dave Joswiak / Dept. Astronomy, U. Washington	"Comet Wild 2 Up Close and Personal: How we Study Tiny Particles from Space, What we've Learned and Comparison to Other Solar System Objects"
Nov 25 <b>10 AM</b>	Cyrena Goodrich / Lunar & Planetary Institute	"Formation and Differentiation of the Earliest Planetesimals in the Solar System"