

Semester	AUG 2022
Open to semester	5,7,21
Course code	EC3194/EC6354
Course title	Paleobiology
Credits	4 /4
Course Coordinator & participating faculty (if any)	Devapriya Chattopadhyay
Nature of Course	Lectures and Lab
Pre-requisites	Basic knowledge of programming, Sedimentology
Objectives (goals, type of students for whom useful, outcome etc)	<p>Paleontology is the study of the history of life through time. As with many other areas of geology, paleobiology sits at the interface between disciplines, in this case biology and geology. This course is designed to develop an understanding of the process that govern the development of the fossil and general principles to understand the fossil record. A quantitative approach is adopted in this course to establish the patterns inferred from the organismal record in the deep time. The first part of the course is primarily devoted to develop an understanding of various Paleontological methods applied to read the record. The second part is designed to study the evolutionary steps and major events of the life history in this planet as revealed by the fossil record.</p>
Course contents (details of topics /sections with no. of lectures for each)	<p>Introduction and history of paleontological investigation – 2 Lectures Taphonomy – 3 Lectures+ 1 Practical Growth and variation – 2 Lectures + 2 Practicals Evolutionary morphology – 4 Lectures + 1 Practical Classification and systematics – 3 Lectures Evolutionary rates & trends – 3 Lectures Macroevolution – 3 Lectures Paleoecology, Paleobiogeography and applications – 6 Lectures Major events in the history of life – 5 Lectures + 1 Practical</p>
Evaluation /assessment	<p>End-Sem Examination-40% Mid-Sem Examination-30% Others-Internal assessment: 30% (Two class tests, presentation of a term paper, viva)%</p>

Suggested readings (with full list of authors, publisher, year, edn etc.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Foote, M. and A. Miller. 2008. Principles of Paleontology. 3rd ed. Freeman, NYC.2) Prothero, D.R. 2004. Bringing Fossils to Life: An Introduction to Paleobiology. 2nd ed. McGraw-Hill, NYC.3) A number of peer reviewed article
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