GEOL90011 Palaeontology and Biogeochemistry

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2012.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Sixty hours. Activities will depend upon selected modules. Total Time Commitment: Not available
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	The basic hydrology model (HYG) is not available for students who have previously completed the following subject or its equivalent.

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
ERTH30001 Hydrogeology/Environmental Geochemistry	Semester 1	12.50

Core Participation Requirements:	It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study and reasonable steps will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. This subject requires all students to actively and safely participate in laboratory activities. Students who feel their disability may impact upon their participation are encouraged to discuss this with the subject coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Contact:	Melbourne Graduate School of Science Faculty of Science The University of Melbourne Victoria 3010 Tel: + 61 3 8344 6128 Fax: +61 3 8344 3351 Web: **http://graduate.science.unimelb.edu.au/ (http://graduate.science.unimelb.edu.au/)**
Subject Overview:	This subject comprises two short course intensive modules and offers the opportunity for students to study the origin and evolution of life on Earth. Included is the role of microbial life on mediating geological processes.
Objectives:	This subject aims to: # explain the essential role of microbial life in geological processes; # provide an understanding of the philosophy behind interpretive methods used by researchers to infer conclusions relating to the origin of major groups; # provide students with an appreciation of the impact of plate tectonics and climate change, as well as the limitations of existing hypotheses; # equip students with discipline-specific knowledge and expertise appropriate for post-graduate research in the field; # equip students with discipline-specific knowledge and expertise enabling them to take their place as professional geologists in industry or government organisations.
Assessment:	This subject comprises two short-course intensive modules, each equally weighted towards the final grade. The specific assessment details will depend upon the modules selected and students are directed to the outlines for each short-course for further details. Assessment tasks will be completed within the duration of the module, or within two weeks of its conclusion. Tasks required are broadly based upon 4,000 words equivalent for the entire subject, with a one-hour examination or 15 minute oral examination or presentation equivalent to approximately

	1,000 words. Thus, a short course module may require a two-hour examination, a one-hour examination and a 15 minute presentation or 1,000 word assignment, or field reports, maps and cross sections equivalent of 2,000 words. For example, in the case of one short course that may be selected for this subject, the assessment can be described as “Submission of a written assignment totalling no more than 1,000 words and a one-hour examination on last day of course”.
Prescribed Texts:	None
Recommended Texts:	Texts will vary depending upon choice of modules.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	All modules available to this subject seek to assist students in developing their ability to: # exercise critical judgement; # undertake rigorous and independent thinking; # adopt a problem-solving approach to new and unfamiliar tasks. Depending upon which modules are selected, students will have the opportunity to: # develop high-level written report and/or oral presentation skills; # interrogate, synthesise and interpret the published literature; # work as part of a team.
Related Course(s):	Master of Science (Earth Sciences)
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Earth Sciences