

**GEOL 309**  
**Invertebrate Paleontology**

**Instructor:** Dr. Louis Zachos, 118G Carrier Hall, 915-8827, [lgzachos@olemiss.edu](mailto:lgzachos@olemiss.edu)

**Textbook:** Clarkson, E.N.K., 1998, Invertebrate Paleontology and Evolution, Oxford; Blackwell Science, ISBN 9780632052387

**Catalog Description:** The classification, morphology, and paleoecology of invertebrate fossils.

**Course Description:** Introduction to the study of invertebrate fossils.

**Course Objectives:** Students successfully completing this course will be able to ...

1. Recognize fossils and their type of preservation
2. Describe how fossils are classified and identify fossils by phylum and class
3. Recognize important paleoenvironments
4. Describe the general history of life through time, including major origination and extinction events and their possible causes
5. Describe how to collect and preserve fossils for scientific use
6. Describe the fossil bearing strata of the southeastern US and their characteristic fossils

**Grading:**

The Plus/Minus Grading Scale will be adopted for this course (refer to the web site <http://www.olemiss.edu/info/grading.html> for an explanation of this grading scale).

Quizzes and in-class assignments (10%)

Blackboard assignments (10%)

Mid-term exam (20%)

Final examination (25%)

Laboratory (35%)