GEOLOGY 510    Senior Thesis

Description: A written report based on independent study. Originality is emphasized, laboratory and field studies are encouraged.

REGULATIONS

6-credit course, typically completed over two consecutive terms during the Fall and Winter semesters. GLGY 510 is administered the Department of Geoscience and is open to students in the degree program of Geology.

Minimum GPA for consideration
3.0 in all Geology and Geophysics courses, and students must be in their final graduating year. Note: if grades in the term immediately preceding the course bring GPA below 3.0, this may result in being rendered ineligible for GLGY 510 and therefore removed from the course.

Course Requirements
Science 311 and successful completion of all 400-level required courses.

Getting a Supervisor
It is the responsibility of the student to decide which area of geology that they would like to research and to approach a suitable faculty member regarding supervision. This needs to be done in advance of initiating enrolment into the course.

When to contact a potential Supervisor?
Contact potential supervisors in the preceding Winter (best!) or Spring term - well in advance of Fall term.

Have a project idea but unsure whom to approach as possible Supervisor?
Students who have a project in mind but are unsure which faculty members would be potential supervisors should visit the Geoscience faculty member list at: https://science.ucalgary.ca/geoscience/research/researchers

REGISTRATION

Once the prospective Supervisor has indicated their willingness to supervise you on your project, complete the webform (https://science.ucalgary.ca/usc-independent-research-course-application) NO LATER than 10 working days before the add/swap deadline in the term (https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html).

A thesis proposal (3 pages max) MUST be submitted to your supervisor before completing the webform. The thesis proposal should outline the intended research and include an introduction, objectives of the research, methodology, nature of technical support required,
and an estimate of the costs that will be incurred.

- If registration is denied, you will be notified by e-mail.
- If registration is granted, you will be enrolled into the course by staff in the USC and you will be notified by email.

DEADLINES & EVALUATION

Progress Report
A progress report must be submitted to the supervisor by December 15. The format and nature of the report is up to the supervisor (i.e. it may be: written OR oral; and in report OR examination form).

Final Submission - Completed Thesis
The completed thesis must be submitted to the supervisor by the last day of classes for the Winter term. The supervisor may request a first draft be submitted earlier for a preliminary review. Late submission will result in an "F" grade being assigned. Students who are unable to complete the thesis by the due date may apply for a Deferral of Term Work, which is granted at the Associate Dean’s discretion.

The completed thesis must be read, reviewed and evaluated by at least two faculty members, one of whom may be the supervisor. Together, the reviewers decide upon a grade based on a pre-determined, mutually-agreed-upon rubric.

Formatting & Binding of Final Submission
Final submission should include title page, table of contents, abstract, chapters or sections explaining the work (including introduction and conclusion chapters), and a bibliography.

For more information, see the general thesis formatting guidelines at: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/3/thesis-guidelines.pdf. Your final report should have the same main sections as a graduate-level thesis. Speak to your supervisor about your thesis format. If desired, a final bound paper copy of the thesis may be provided to the Gallagher Library. Instructions on how this copy should be bound can be found on the above website.

Library Loan Policy
GLGY 510 students are eligible to apply for an extended library loan period. The term loan request form can be obtained at the front desk of the Gallagher Library or from the Undergraduate Policies, Procedures, and Forms section of the Department of Geoscience https://science.ucalgary.ca/geoscience/current-students/undergraduate/procedures-policies-and-forms.