School of Earth & Environmental Sciences

EESC901: Advanced Plate Tectonics, Macrotopography and Earth History

Subject Outline
Autumn, 2016
On-Campus / Flexible
Wollongong

Subject Information
Credit Points: 12
Pre-requisite(s): Nil
Co-requisite(s): Nil
Restrictions: Nil
Contact Hours: 1 x 5hr Lecture/Practical

Subject Contacts

Subject Coordinator/Lecturer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>A/PR Chris Fergusson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Building 41, Room 159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>61 2 4221 3860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris_fergusson@uow.edu.au">chris_fergusson@uow.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation mode and times:</td>
<td>Email for appointment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Support and Advice
For general enquiries please contact StudentHub 41:
Location: 41.138B
Telephone: 61 2 4221 3492
Email: smah-students@uow.edu.au
Student Consultation and Communication

University staff receive many emails each day. In order to enable them to respond to your emails appropriately and in a timely fashion, students are asked to observe basic requirements of professional communication:

Please ensure that you include your full name and student number and identify your practical class or tutorial group in your email so that staff know who they are communicating with and can follow-up personally where appropriate.

Consider what the communication is about
- Is your question addressed elsewhere (e.g. in the subject outline or, on the eLearning site)?
- Is it something that is better discussed in person or by telephone? This may be the case if your query requires a lengthy response or a dialogue in order to address. If so, see consultation times above and/or schedule an appointment.
- Are you addressing your request to the most appropriate person?

Specific email subject title to enable easy identification of issue
- Identify the subject code of the subject you are enquiring about (as staff may be involved in more than one subject) put this in the email subject heading. Add a brief, specific query reference after the subject code where appropriate.

Professional courtesy
- Address the staff member appropriately by name (and formal title if you do not yet know them).
- Use full words (avoid ‘text-speak’ abbreviations), correct grammar and correct spelling.
- Be respectful and courteous.
- Allow 3 – 4 working days for a response before following up. If the matter is legitimately urgent, you may wish to try telephoning the staff member (and leaving a voicemail message if necessary) or inquiring at the School Office.
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Section A: General Information

Subject Learning Outcomes

On completion of this subject, students should be able to:

| 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the theory and processes of plate tectonics and how they shape planet Earth. |
| 2. Identify and describe structures and sequences associated with tectonic uplift and subsidence. |
| 3. Critically evaluate the principles of plate tectonics in relation to geologic structures. |
| 4. Analyse the macrotopography of planet Earth in relation to plate tectonic processes. |
| 5. Apply appropriate techniques to determine the uplift and tectonic history of a specific region on planet Earth. |
| 6. Communicate perspectives of plate tectonics and macrotopography effectively using appropriate technologies and communication skills. |
| 7. Demonstrate ethical and professional conduct by participating constructively in decision making within the context of plate tectonics. |

Subject Description

This subject is concerned with the theory of plate tectonics and its role in the formation of Earth structures and topography. Large-scale processes are examined in relation to the controls of topography and bathymetry. Relationships between plates and ocean basins, continental margins, continental interiors and sedimentary basins are evaluated. Earth structure is examined along with earthquakes and deformation (stress, strain, faulting and folding). Earth history is considered in relation to past mountain belts, continents and oceans. Practicals are a series of tutorials designed to reinforce the material covered in lectures. Field work consists of up to two field trips.

eLearning Space

This subject has materials and activities available via eLearning. To access eLearning you must have a UOW user account name and password, and be enrolled in the subject. eLearning is accessed via SOLS (student online services). Log on to SOLS and then click on the eLearning link in the menu column. For information regarding the eLearning spaces please use the following link:
http://uowblogs.com/moodlelab/files/2013/05/Moodle_StudentGuide-1petpo7.pdf

Lecture, Tutorial, Laboratory Times

All timetable information is subject to variation. Check latest timetabling information on the 'Current Student' webpage on UOW website or log into SOLS to view your personal timetable prior to attending classes.

Timetable information can be accessed from

Key University Dates can be accessed from

Readings, References and Materials

Textbooks
Nil

Lecture recordings, lecture notes, Powerpoint Presentations and Practicals are provided on eLearning. Practical notes are available from the coordinator.

Materials:
Materials required for practicals include pens, pencils, metric ruler, protractor, and calculator.
Recommended Readings:
The following references complement the prescribed readings and textbooks:


If you plan to be a professional geologist it is suggested that van der Pluijm and Marshak (2004) would be a very useful book to purchase for your personal library.

Recommended readings are not intended as an exhaustive list, students should use the Library catalogue and databases to locate additional resources.

Recent Changes to this Subject
i. Minor changes to Assessment weightings
ii. Changes to Subject Learning Outcomes

Fieldwork Safety Guidelines
The rules below are general rules that are required when participating in practicals which involve fieldwork.

- Before commencing fieldwork you are to ensure that you understand specific procedures and policy related to fieldwork safety.
- You will need to review a Risk Assessment form for the fieldwork to be conducted, then complete a Fieldwork Participant Acknowledgement form before commencing any fieldwork. These materials will be made available by the Subject Coordinator.
- You must inform the Subject Coordinator of any medical conditions which may impact upon your ability to participate in fieldwork before commencing any fieldwork.
- All Reasonable Adjustment cases must be discussed with the Subject Coordinator prior to commencing fieldwork.
- Attendance on field excursions may be denied to students who do not abide by these, and other conditions which may be specified by the Subject Coordinator.
### Schedule of Learning*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week Commencing</th>
<th>Lecture/Tutorial</th>
<th>Demonstration/Lab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>29/02/2016</td>
<td>Introduction to subject and Plate Tectonics</td>
<td>Global tectonic maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ETOPO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>07/03/2016</td>
<td>Deformation</td>
<td>Folds/ORIENTATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>14/03/2016</td>
<td>Folds</td>
<td>Stereographic projection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>21/03/2016</td>
<td>Faults</td>
<td>Fault problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>28/03/2016</td>
<td>Thrust Faults</td>
<td>Zagros cross section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>04/04/2016</td>
<td>Earthquakes and First Motion Studies</td>
<td>Nankai subduction zone Field Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11/04/2016</td>
<td>Ridges and transforms and Isostasy</td>
<td>Field Report/alternative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>18/04/2016</td>
<td>Plate motions</td>
<td>Plate tectonics 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Mid-Session Recess 25th April-29th April</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>02/05/2016</td>
<td>Driving plates</td>
<td>Plate tectonics 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>09/05/2016</td>
<td>Rifting and Passive Margins</td>
<td>Passive Margins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>16/05/2016</td>
<td>Continental Margin Arcs and Island Arcs</td>
<td>Backarc Basins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>23/05/2016</td>
<td>Island Arc Collisions and Intraplate Tectonics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>30/05/2016</td>
<td>Collisions and Earth History</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Study Recess 6th June-10th June</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>UOW Exam Period 11th June-23 June</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The above timetable should be used as a guide only, as it is subject to change. Students will be advised of any changes as they become known.*
Section B: Assessment

Assessment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Form of Assessment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Return/Feedback Due Dates</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>Theory Quizzes (5)</td>
<td>Weeks 2, 3, 4, 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Weeks 2, 3, 4, 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>ETOPO2 Assignment</td>
<td>24th March 2016</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>Practical Test 1</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 4</td>
<td>Field Assignment</td>
<td>14th April 2016</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 5</td>
<td>Practical Test 2</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 6</td>
<td>Group project</td>
<td>Weeks 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 7</td>
<td>Major Project</td>
<td>10th June 2016</td>
<td>Up to 10 days after due date</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 8</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>During exam period</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Marks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details of Assessment Tasks
Assessment tasks will be marked using explicit criteria that are provided below to students prior to submission.

**Assessment 1**
- **Theory Quizzes (5)**
  - **Due date**: Weeks 2, 3, 4, 7 & 8
  - **Weighting**: 15% (3% each)
  - **Submission**: Moodle and/or print
  - **Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment
  - **Length**: 10 minutes each
  - **Details**:
    - To be advised.
  - **Style and format**: Multiple choice questions, true or false statements
  - **Subject Learning Outcomes**: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  - **Marking Criteria**: Pick the most correct answer to each question (1 choice per question is marked correct).

**Assessment 2**
- **ETOPO2 Assignment**
  - **Due date**: 4.00 pm Thursday 24th March 2016
  - **Weighting**: 3%
  - **Submission**: Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to Moodle site (Turnitin)
  - **Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment
  - **Length**: Required diagrams and answers to questions up to a maximum length of 200 words
  - **Details**: Electronic copy (pdf) submitted to Moodle Site
  - **Style and format**: Pdf copy (with maps and profiles) and answers to questions
  - **Subject Learning Outcomes**: 2, 3, 4
  - **Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 1 of session.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 3</th>
<th>Practical Test 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Exam papers and answers must be submitted at the conclusion of the exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Short written-answer questions and practical questions (similar to those in Practicals Weeks 1 to 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style and format</td>
<td>In-class test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marking Criteria</td>
<td>The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 2 of session.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 4</th>
<th>Field Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>Thursday 14\textsuperscript{th} April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to Moodle site (Turnitin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>To be advised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Report, maps, cross sections, stratigraphic columns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style and format</td>
<td>Pdf copy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marking Criteria</td>
<td>The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 4 of session.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 5</th>
<th>Practical Test 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Exam papers and answers must be submitted at the conclusion of the exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Short written-answer questions and practical questions (similar to those in Practicals Weeks 6 to 11).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style and format</td>
<td>In-class test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marking Criteria</td>
<td>The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 5 of session.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 6</th>
<th>Group Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>Weeks 12 to 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Topics to be given in Week 7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Style and format</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1, 6, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marking Criteria</td>
<td>The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Assessment 7

**Major Project**

**Due date**: 4.00 pm Friday 10th June 2016  
**Weighting**: 33%  
**Submission**: Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to Moodle site (Turnitin)  
**Type of Collaboration**: Individual assessment  
**Length**: Up to 6,000 words text plus additional figures  
**Details**: Topic to be decided with agreement of coordinator  
**Style and format**: Essay  
**Subject Learning Outcomes**: 1, 6, 7  
**Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 1 of session.

### Assessment 8

**Final Examination**

**Due date**: During exam period  
**Weighting**: 15%  
**Submission**: Exam papers and answers must be submitted at the conclusion of the exam.  
**Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment  
**Length**: 2 hours  
**Details**: The format of the final examination will include short answer written questions (some of these require drawing and/or labelling of diagrams) with answers up to 1 page in length. Questions will be based on the lecture, tutorial and practical component of the subject with an emphasis on Weeks 6 to 13. More details of the content and final format of the examination will be given during the subject.  
**Style and format**: Final Exam  
**Subject Learning Outcomes**: 1, 2, 3, 4  
**Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria will be made available on your eLearning site by week 11 of session.

### Minimum Requirements for a Pass in this Subject

To receive a clear pass in this subject a total mark of 50% or more must be achieved. In addition, failure to meet any of the minimum performance requirements is grounds for awarding a Technical Fail (TF) in the subject, even where total marks accumulated are greater than 50%.

The minimum performance requirements for this subject are:

- You must complete a minimum of 3 of the Theory Quizzes and obtain a minimum mark of 3 out of a possible 15 marks  
- You must submit all assignments (ETOPO2, Field Report or alternative assignment, Group Project, Major Project) and obtain a minimum mark of 15 out of a possible 40 marks  
- You must attempt both Practical Tests and obtain a minimum mark of 4 out of 14 possible marks  
- You must attempt the final exam and obtain a minimum mark of 6 out of 15 possible marks

### Minimum Student Attendance and Participation

Attendance is compulsory at practicals (a role is kept). Marks are not given for attendance. Where a practical is missed the submission of an application for Academic Consideration via SOLS and the presentation of suitable documentation is required, for example a Medical Certificate, to Student Central as soon as possible. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: [http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html)

Student attendance at lectures and the field excursion is not compulsory but is strongly recommended.
Scaling

Scaling may occur in this subject at the end of session by the Unit Assessment Committee and/or Faculty Assessment Committee (FAC). Marks will only be scaled to ensure fairness/parity of marking across groups of students. Scaling will not affect any individual student’s rank order within their cohort. For more information refer to Assessment Guidelines – Scaling:

Late Submission

Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. If you are unable to submit an assessment due to extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical grounds or compassionate grounds), you can make an application of academic consideration. Not all circumstances qualify for academic consideration. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage:

Late Submission Penalty

Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. Marks will be deducted for late submission at the rate of 10% of the total possible marks for that particular assessment task per day. This means that if a piece of work is marked out of 100, then the late penalty will be 10 marks per day (10% of 100 possible marks per day). The formula for calculating the late penalty is the total possible marks x 0.10 x number of days late. For the purposes of this policy a weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be regarded as two days.

For example:

- Student A submits an assessment which is marked out of 100. The assessment is submitted 4 days late. This means that a late penalty of 40 marks will apply (100 x 0.10 x 4). The assessment is marked as per normal out of 100 and is given a mark of 85/100, and then the late penalty is applied. The result is that the student receives a final mark of 45/100 for the assessment (85 (original mark) – 40 marks (late penalty) = 45/100 (final mark)).

- Student B submits a report which is marked out of 20. The report is submitted three days late. This means that a late penalty of 6 marks will apply (20 x 0.10 x 3). The report is marked as per normal out of 20 and is given a mark of 15/20, and then the late penalty is applied. The result is that the student receives a final mark of 9/20 for the report (15 (original mark) – 6 marks (late penalty) = 9/20 (final mark)).

No marks will be awarded for work submitted after the assessment has been returned to the students (except where a particular assessment task is undertaken by students at different times throughout the session, but where the assessment is based on experiments or case studies specific to a student). Notwithstanding this, students must complete all assessment tasks to a satisfactory standard and submit them, regardless of lateness or loss of marks, where submission is a condition of satisfactorily completing the subject.

System of Referencing Used for Written Work

The Author-Date (Harvard) referencing system should, unless otherwise specified for a particular assessment (check Details of Assessment Tasks), be utilised. A summary of the Harvard system can be accessed on the Library website at: http://public01.library.uow.edu.au/refcite/style-guides/html/

Use of Internet Sources

Students are able to use the Internet to access the most current information on relevant topics and information. Internet sources should only be used after careful critical analysis of the currency of the information, the role and standing of the sponsoring institution, reputation and credentials of the author, the clarity of the information and the extent to which the information can be supported or ratified by other authoritative sources.
Plagiarism
The full policy on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism is found in the Policy Directory on the UOW website.

“The University's Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy, Faculty Handbooks and subject guides clearly set out the University's expectation that students submit only their own original work for assessment and avoid plagiarising the work of others or cheating. Re-using any of your own work (either in part or in full) which you have submitted previously for assessment is not permitted without appropriate acknowledgement. Plagiarism can be detected and has led to students being expelled from the University.

The use by students of any website that provides access to essays or other assessment items (sometimes marketed as 'resources'), is extremely unwise. Students who provide an assessment item (or provide access to an assessment item) to others, either directly or indirectly (for example by uploading an assessment item to a website) are considered by the university to be intentionally or recklessly helping other students to cheat. This is considered academic misconduct and students place themselves at risk of being expelled from the University.”

Submission of Assessments
Refer to the submission requirements under the details of the individual assessments. Students should ensure that they receive a receipt acknowledging submission. Students will be required to produce this in the event that an assessment task is considered to be lost. Students are also expected to keep a copy of all their submitted assessments in the event that re-submission is required.

Assessment Return
Students will be notified when they can collect or view their marked assessment. In accordance with University Policy marked assessments will usually only be held for 21 days after the declaration of marks for that assessment.
Section C: General Advice

Students should refer to the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health website for information on policies, learning and support services and other general advice.

University Policies

Students should be familiar with the following University policies:

a. Code of Practice – Teaching and Assessment
b. Code of Practice – Research, where relevant
c. Student Charter
d. Code of Practice – Student Professional Experience, where relevant
e. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy
f. Student Academic Consideration Policy
g. Course Progress Policy
h. Graduate Qualities Policy
i. Academic Complaints Policy (Coursework and Honours Students)
j. Policy and Guidelines on Non-Discriminatory Language Practice and Presentation
k. Workplace Health and Safety, where relevant
l. Intellectual Property Policy
m. IP Student Assessment of Intellectual Property Policy, where relevant

n. Student Conduct Rules and accompanying Procedures or Research Misconduct Policy for research students

Student Support Services and Facilities

Students can access information on student support services and facilities at the following link. This includes information on “Academic Support”, “Starting at University”, “Help at University” as well as information and support on “Career’s and Jobs”. http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/index.html
Student Etiquette
Guidelines on the use of email to contact teaching staff, mobile phone use in class and information on the university guide to eLearning ‘Netiquette’ can be found at http://www.uow.edu.au/student/elearning/netiquette/index.html

Version Control Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version Control</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Author/Reviewer</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>20151104</td>
<td>A/PR Chris Fergusson – Subject Coordinator</td>
<td>Mrs Sonia Losinno – ADE Nominee</td>
<td>Final 2016 Autumn EESC901 Subject Outline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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