

Module code	SG-1204		
Module Title	Introduction to Paleontology		
Degree/Diploma	Bachelor of Science (Geology)		
Type of Module	Major Core		
Modular Credits	4	Total student Workload	10 hours/week
		Contact hours	6 hours/week
Prerequisite	None		
Anti-requisite	None		
Aims			
<p>Basic knowledge on the morphology and geologic range of most common fossils (invertebrates, vertebrates, plants and microfossils) will be acquired, as every experienced geologist need. Teaching classes are integrated with labs, discussions, and critical observations of fossil organisms. Theoretical parts will include systematics of the organisms (vertebrates, invertebrates, microfossils and plants) and study of their associations with other fossils and host sediments.</p>			
Learning Outcomes			
<i>On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:</i>			
Lower order :	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understand the fundamentals of the fossil record and its usefulness in different applications like biostratigraphy, paleoecology, paleogeography - familiarise themselves with the basics of taxonomy 	
Middle order :	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - apply the gained knowledge in practical cases - infer about the paleoecology and functional morphology of extinct organisms by interpreting their distribution, taphonomy, and ichnology - apply principles of Biostratigraphy for the reconstruction of environments 	
Higher order:	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - correlate observations and information from different environments - work alone or in collaborative teams on given samples 	
Module Contents			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to fossil organisms, geological time scale, mass extinctions and evolutions - Taxonomy and systematic study of fossils; trace fossils, microfossils, invertebrates, vertebrates - Taphonomy and Actupalaeontology - Fossils and palaeoenvironments and microfacies analyses 			
Assessment	Formative assessment	Practical tests, assignments and feedback	
	Summative assessment	Examination: 60% Coursework: 40% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 reports (20%) - 1 class test (20%) 	