PALEONTOLOGY MINOR

Banner Code: PLEO

Dr. Stacey Verardo, Undergraduate Coordinator and Term Professor

109 Research Hall
Fairfax Campus

Phone: 703-993-1045
Email: sverardo@gmu.edu
Website: cos.gmu.edu/aoes/academics/undergraduate-programs/

Students interested in the evolution of life on Earth can take this minor in association with degrees from any field of study across the university. Fundamental courses include historical geology, invertebrate paleontology and vertebrate paleontology.

This has been designated a Green Leaf program.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor. For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Students must successfully complete 18-21 credits with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

Requirements

Minor Requirements

Total credits: 18-21

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Required Core

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 102</td>
<td>Introductory Geology II (Mason Core)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 312</td>
<td>Invertebrate Paleontology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 334</td>
<td>Vertebrate Paleontology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or BIOL 334</td>
<td>Vertebrate Paleontology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Many of the courses below have additional prerequisites beyond the required core courses above; please check the individual courses carefully.

Select two courses from the list below or choose Option One, Option Two, Option Three, or Option Four:

- BIOL 304 Sedimentary Geology
- BIOL 364 Marine Geology
- GGS 321 Biogeography
  or BIOL 374 Biogeography: Space, Time, and Life
- BIOL 377 Applied Ecology
- BIOL 470 Dinosaur Biology

- **Option One**
  - BIOL 310 Biodiversity
  - & BIOL 330 Biodiversity Lab and Recitation
  - Select one from the following:
    - BIOL 320 Comparative Chordate Anatomy
    - BIOL 322 Developmental Biology
      & BIOL 323 and Lab for Developmental Biology
    - BIOL 331 Invertebrate Zoology
    - BIOL 332 Insect Biology
  - **Total Credits 6-9**

- **Option Two**
  - BIOL 308 Foundations of Ecology and Evolution
  - BIOL 468 Vertebrate Natural History
    or EVPP 468 Vertebrate Natural History
  - **Total Credits 5**

- **Option Three**
  - GEOL 309 Introduction to Oceanography
    or BIOL 309 Introduction to Oceanography
  - EVPP 419 Marine Mammal Biology and Conservation
  - **Total Credits 3**

- **Option Four**
  - BIOL 305 Biology of Microorganisms
  - BIOL 407 Microbial Diversity
  - **Total Credits 3**