

PETE/GEOS 646
Petroleum Geology
3 credits

Hydrocarbons fuel today's economy, but remain a relatively rare natural resource. The objective of this course is to review the geologic controls on the distribution and accumulation of hydrocarbons, how those hydrocarbons are found, and how they are subsequently extracted. At the end of the course, students should be able to explain:

- the subsurface environment
- the origin and nature of hydrocarbons
- how and where hydrocarbons accumulate
- methods of hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation
- unconventional hydrocarbon resources
- basic reservoir engineering techniques

Examples from classic hydrocarbon-producing regions will be used to illustrate the principles and techniques discussed in class.

Students will be assigned additional readings each week that expand on the topics discussed in class. Students will then use the concepts and techniques discussed in both the class and the readings to research a petroleum topic related to their own area of research. Results will be summarized as a paper and presented to the class as a short presentation.

Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor

Instructor: Cathy Hanks, NSB 346/Duckering 417, 474-5562 or 2668
chanks@gi.alaska.edu

Office Hours: TBD

Text: Selley, 1999, Elements of Petroleum Geology. Academic Press, 470 p.

Additional readings will be assigned each week to augment the lectures.

Class format:

The class will consist of lectures and homework assignments. Additional readings will be assigned each week to augment the lecture material given in class.

Grading Policy

The course grade will be a letter grade (plus, minus) and will be based on:
2 mid-term exams (20% each)

final exam (20% each)

homeworks (20%)

final project paper & oral presentation (20%)

Students will meet with the instructor during the first 2 weeks of class to

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Subsurface geology and maps
Formation Evaluation

9	Trap types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Structural Traps. ○ Stratigraphic Traps. ○ Combination Traps. ○ Hydrodynamic Traps. 	Hwk 8: Constructing subsurface structure maps; Identifying play types from subsurface structure maps	
	Salt-related structures		
10	<u>Midterm II</u>		
	Structural modifications of a reservoir: Fractured reservoirs		
11	Timing of Trap Development Relative to Migration. Petroleum systems & plate tectonic habitat Passive continental margins	Hwk 9: Using seismic data for structural interpretation and timing	Selley, Ch. 8
	Passive continental margins, cont		
12	Convergent margins Strike slip basins	Hwk 10: Plate tectonic setting of modern day basins	
	Reservoir engineering: Reserve calculations	Hwk 11: Simple reserve calculation	Selley, Ch. 6.8-6.9
13	Well Drilling and Completion		
	Non conventional hydrocarbon resources Viscous oil Gas hydrates Coal bed methane		
14	Tight gas Shale resource plays		
	Student presentations		

Course Policies: Attendance at class is your responsibility. Students are responsible for making up any missed work. Students are encouraged to arrive to class on time. Make-up examinations will be held only under exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, family crises, etc.). Medical documentation will be required to confirm illnesses. We follow the university guidelines for plagiarism/academic integrity as outlined in the current UAF catalog (p. 71-72).

Disability Services: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with