Natural fractures are present in nearly all reservoirs, but their importance varies with fracture characteristics, with the ratio of fracture permeability to matrix permeability, and with the relationship between fractures and the in situ stresses. Knowing how to get the most fracture and stress information from cores, wellbore-image logs, and outcrops improves the characterizations of the reservoir stress and fracture system and therefore optimizes the chances of efficient recovery from hydrocarbon reservoirs.

This course discusses the different types of fractures, their effects on permeability in hydrocarbon reservoirs, and how to properly assess them. It will begin the evening of Sunday, February 1st with a welcome reception and workshop overview. It will conclude on Tuesday, February 3rd at noon. (Monday afternoon will be left open but we will have a work session on Monday evening.)