

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**GEOL5200 – Imperial Barrel Award**  
**Spring 2019**

**Instructor Information:**

**Instructor:** Brandon McElroy

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**Office Hours:** Wed 9-10 AM

Wed 3-4 PM

Thu 1-2 PM

**Course Information:**

**Meetings:** GEO 311G, MWF, 5-5:50

**Prerequisites:** Consent of Instructor. The following courses are highly recommended: Petroleum Geology, Introduction to Geophysics.

**Course Description:** The class aims to prepare students for the AAPG's Imperial Barrel Award Program (IBA). IBA is an annual prospective basin evaluation competition for geoscience graduate students from universities around the world. University teams compete to win scholarship funds for their geoscience department and the international recognition that comes from competing or winning in the competition. The program is rigorous and contributes to AAPG's mission of promoting petroleum geoscience training and advancing the careers of geoscience students. In this global competition, university teams analyze a dataset (geology, geophysics, land, production infrastructure, and other relevant materials) in the eight weeks prior to their local competition. Each team delivers their results in a 25 minute presentation to a panel of industry experts. Students have the chance to use state of the art technology on a real dataset, receive feedback from an industry panel, impress potential employers in the audience, and win cash awards for their school. The judges will select the winning team on the basis of the technical quality, clarity and originality of presentation. The IBA is a hands-on opportunity for students to experience the creative process and the high-tech science that is the foundation of the Energy Industry.

**Text(s) and Readings:** Readings will include a wide range of scientific literature as related to the geologic and petroleum system evolution of the dataset region.

**Required Materials:** No texts or other materials are required.

**Course Requirements/Assignments:** Students will be expected to contribute to the analysis, interpretation, synthesis, and presentation of the petroleum prospect dataset that forms the basis of the IBA competition. Weekly, informal presentations to the class of recent work will be the norm. Typical activities will include literature search and review, computational data analysis, computational modeling, and generation of original presentation graphics.

**Final Project:** Students are required to prepare in group a 25-minute presentation for delivery at the IBA regional competition.

**Grading Standards:**

Final grade is based on the successful completion of the project and participation in class.

**Attendance/Participation Policy:**

University sponsored absences are cleared through the Office of Student Life. Lectures form the primary content of the course, and therefore attendance and participation is mandatory. If you must be absent,

please have a university sponsored absence, or see me first (e.g. if you are to attend a conference, etc.). In general material cannot be made up for absences.

### **Academic Honesty:**

UW Regulation 6-802. The University of Wyoming is built upon a strong foundation of integrity, respect and trust. All members of the university community have a responsibility to be honest and the right to expect honesty from others. Any form of academic dishonesty is unacceptable to our community and will not be tolerated [from the University Catalog]. Teachers and students should report suspected violations of standards of academic honesty to the instructor, department head, or dean. Other University regulations can be found at [http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/\\_files/docs/uw-reg-6-802.pdf](http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/_files/docs/uw-reg-6-802.pdf)

### **Classroom Behavior Policy:**

At all times, treat your presence in the classroom and your enrollment in this course as you would a job. Act professionally, arrive on time, pay attention, complete your work in a timely and professional manner, and treat all deadlines seriously. You will be respectful towards you classmates and instructor. Spirited debate and disagreement are to be expected in any classroom and all views will be heard fully, but at all times we will behave civilly and with respect towards one another. Personal attacks, offensive language, name-calling, and dismissive gestures are not warranted in a learning atmosphere. As the instructor, I have the right to dismiss you from the classroom, study sessions, electronic forums, and other areas where disruptive behavior occurs.

Electronic devices such as mobile phones should be (left at home, set to silent, turned off). Laptops are allowed for note-taking purposes. No video or audio recording during class is allowed to protect the privacy of your fellow students.

### **Classroom Statement on Diversity:**

The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

### **Disability Support:**

If you have a physical, learning, sensory or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with, and provide documentation of your disability to University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in SEO, room 330 Knight Hall.

### **Duty to Report:**

UW faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX, discrimination based upon sex and gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, the faculty member MUST report information you share about the incident to the university's Title IX Coordinator (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are people who can meet with you. Faculty can help direct you or you may find info about UW policy and resources at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit>

You do not have to go through the experience alone. Assistance and resources are available, and you are not required to make a formal complaint or participate in an investigation to access them.

The instructor may make changes to the syllabus as the course proceeds. If necessary, these changes will be announced in class. Substantive changes made to the syllabus shall be communicated in writing to the students. The most up-to-date syllabus can always be found online.