

Paleoecology 206-25191 – 2.25 credits

Prof. Chaim Benjamini

Syllabus

Introduction; fidelity; taphonomy; environmental parameters; paleoautecology; adaptive and functional morphology; Populations and communities; Coloniality and symbiosis; Hard bottom communities; Soft-bottom and trace fossil communities; Succession vs. replacement; Biospace; guilds; community evolution.

Bibliography

1. Allison, P.A. and Briggs, D.E.G., ed. Taphonomy - releasing the data locked in the fossil record. Plenum, N.Y. and London, 1991.
2. Briggs, D.E.G., and Crowther, P.R. (ed.) 1990. Palaeobiology: a synthesis. Blackwell, Oxford and London, 1990.
3. Dodd, J.R. and Stanton, R.J. Paleocology - concepts and application , 2nd ed. J. Wiley, N.Y., 1990.
4. Tevesz, M.J.S. and McCall, P.L. Biotic interactions in recent and fossil benthic communities. Plenum, N.Y. and London, 1983.
5. Valentine, J.W. Evolutionary paleoecology in the marine environment. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, 1974.

Course Requirements

Prerequisites: Introduction to Paleontology, Stratigraphy, Introduction to Sedimentology

2 hr lecture

1 day excursion

Grading

90% - Course examination on all theoretical material

10% - Field Excursion Report