

PALAEONTOLOGY 15/25

Discover the fundamentals of the scientific process by examining the fossil record to gain a greater understanding of the past.

“Palaeontology via video conference allows staff development opportunities with new technology, to teach to a larger audience with real time material, and engage experts.”

Keith Schneider, Principal, Standard School

History

Palaeontology 15 and 25 were developed in partnership with the Golden Hills School Division, Royal Tyrrell Museum, and Drumheller Valley Secondary School, to provide a comprehensive introduction to palaeontology and prepare students for university study. Both programs are offered as 3-credit and 5-credit courses, and are available from Golden Hills School Division. Work is underway to develop a course outline for Palaeontology 35.

Palaeo 15

Palaeontology 15 is an introductory science course that integrates many disciplines — biology, geology, physics and chemistry. Students delve into the history of life on Earth and discover the fundamentals of the scientific process. By examining the fossil record, they gain a greater understanding of the past.

The Museum is able to offer most of the experiences via videoconferencing, but encourages schools to take advantage of the surrounding badlands, the Museum galleries and fossil casting lab in up to three in-house visits (depending on travel feasibility).

In-house programs may include:

Fossil Casting, Seven Wonders of the Badlands (guided hike), and a guided Gallery Tour.

Videoconferencing workshops may include:

Introduction to Palaeontology, Cretaceous Crime Scene, Badlands/Goodlands, Museum at Work, and a Royal Tyrrell Museum Virtual Visit.

Palaeo 25

Building on the fundamental understanding of the history of Earth established in the Palaeontology 15 course, Palaeontology 25 explores evolutionary theory and the evidence in the fossil record. This course also introduces students to systematics and classification of ancient life, major innovations in evolution, as well as, biogeography and extinctions.

As a part of this 5-credit course, six practical experiences are provided through a combination of in-house visits to the Royal Tyrrell Museum, videoconferencing sessions with the Museum and Dinosaur Provincial Park, and a field trip.

In-house Museum programs include:

Survivors of Change and Echoes From the Past.

Videoconferencing workshops include:

Up Close and Palaeo, Applied Science in Palaeontology: Physics, and Dinosaur Provincial Park Virtual Excursion.

The field trip includes:

A trip of the Red Deer River valley around Drumheller exploring the geology and palaeontology of the area.

Palaeontology 25 provides the necessary foundation for an intensive look at the proliferation of dinosaurs and the beginnings of mammalian life explored in Palaeontology 35 (in development).



in partnership with

ROYAL TYRRELL
MUSEUM

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Instructional Delivery Options for Alberta Schools

Option (1)

Golden Hills School Division (GHSD) provides the courses through videoconferencing with its teachers providing all instructional services.

Option (2)

The provision of the Palaeontology courses online using the Blackboard platform through the Golden Hills Learning Academy.

Option (3)

The locally developed Palaeontology courses can be selected as an acquired course by any high school in Alberta.

“Video conference technology is an excellent way for small schools to offer options such as French, Physics, Math 31 and Palaeontology.”

Gary Semotiuk, Principal, Acme School



Award Winning

In 2008, the Canadian Museum's Association awarded Drumheller Valley Secondary School and the Royal Tyrrell Museum the Museums and Schools Partnership Award for the Palaeontology 15 course.

The course was also recognized by the Calgary Educational Partnership Foundation in 2007 with the Mayor's Excellence Award in the category of Curriculum Support.

For more information or to add Palaeo 15 and 25 to your course offerings contact:



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—OR—

visit the Museum website:
www.tyrrellmuseum.com

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