

Current Address:
401 University Oaks Blvd.#1604
College Station, TX 77840

Jordan Noret
jordannoret@gmail.com
Phone: (512) 968-9025

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Permanent Address:
12000 Swallow Dr.
Austin, TX 78750

CAREER INTERESTS:

1. First - earn an M.S and/or Ph.D. in Geology
2. Work in academia as a teacher and researcher
3. Publish research as well as educational materials
4. Develop programs for enhancing local science education
5. Work to better establish the use of science in the political process

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

1. The causes of the evolution of biomes and climate and effects on biogeography and biotic evolution
2. Natural variation within species, biotic radiations, and the evolution of highly derived taxa
3. Mesozoic and Cenozoic paleobotany and vertebrate paleontology

EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Graduation: December 2008

- B.S. in Geology (Engineering Geology option)
- B.S. in Environmental Geoscience
- Current *Major* GPA: 3.578
- Current *Overall* GPA: 3.614

Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

Fall 2004 – Spring 2005

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Scholars Project

Spring 2007 – Fall 2008

Advisors/Co-Authors: Dr. Ethan Grossman and Dr. Thomas Yancey

- Studying early Permian climate change by measuring oxygen and carbon isotopic compositions of brachiopod shells
- Participated in scientific process from proposal to thesis publication and public presentation
- Trained to make thin sections and conduct cathodoluminescence analysis to determine sample preservation
- Trained to prepare samples for and conduct stable isotope analysis and electron microprobe analysis

Equipment used:

- Sample preparation: Petrographic saws, polishing equipment, micro-balance, sampling drill
- Preservation analysis: petrographic microscope with Technosyn cathodoluminescent stage and CoolSNAP-Pro microscope camera
- Isotope analysis: ThermoFinnigan DELTAplusXPled mass spectrometer
- Microprobe analysis: Cameca SX-50 electron microprobe

FIELD EXPERIENCE

FIELD WORK

GEOL 304, Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology

November 2008

Llano Uplift of Central Texas (3 days of field work)

- Trip planned for November 2008

GEOL 300, Field Geology

Summer 2008

New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah (6 weeks of field work and field trips)

- Field camp planned for Summer of 2008
- Involves making cross-sections, geologic maps, and other geologic interpretation

GEOL 305, *Paleobiology* **October 2007**
Waco, TX (*1 day of field work*)

- Biostratigraphic analysis of Grayson Formation near Lake Waco

GEOL 309, *Geologic Field Methods* **March 2007**
Mason, TX (*5 days of field work*)

- Developed geologic map and cross-section of Kothman ranch

FIELD TRIPS

GEOL 410, *Engineering Geology* **November 2007**
Galveston, TX (*3 day field trip*)

- Studied the coastal environment and geology of the northern Texas Gulf Coast
- Focused heavily on social and engineering impacts on the environmental sustainability

GEOL 305, *Paleobiology* **October 2007**
IODP Facility, College Station, TX (*1 day field trip*)

- Lithologic and paleobiological (forams) analysis of deep sea cores from the Paleocene/Eocene boundary

GEOL 203, *Mineralogy* **October 2006**
Hot Springs, AR (*2 day field trip*)

- Participated in an educational field trip of Magnet Cove led by a member of the Arkansas Geologic Commission
- Learned about quartz mining first-hand at a local quartz mine

WORK EXPERIENCE

X-ray Diffraction Laboratory **Spring 2007 – Fall 2008**
Geology and Geophysics Department, Texas A&M University
Lab manager and technician

- Handled administrative, human relations, maintenance, and technical duties
- Powder diffraction analysis of rock and mineral samples for Geology and Geophysics Department
- Powder diffraction analysis of wide range of materials from contract clients outside of the department
- Led XRD demonstrations/tutorials for undergraduate geology classes

Austin Mobile Detailing, Austin, TX **May-August, 2005**
Part-Owner, Manager

- Acquired a struggling car wash and grossed over \$10,000 in one summer
- Managed business with older brother and personally supervised work crew of 3 on all jobs

OTHER ACTIVITIES

LeaderShape Institute **Summer 2006**

- One of two College of Geosciences students selected to attend the week-long LeaderShape Institute
- Developed leadership skills through seminars led by leaders in industry and business
- Constructed a “vision statement” that was selected from the Texas A&M chapter to be displayed at the national vision showcase

Bass Guitarist in Worship/Praise Band **Fall 2002 – Summer 2007**
Bethany UMC / Greater Austin Emmaus Community Chrysalis Retreat (Austin, TX)

- Played bass guitar in praise band that led 3,000 people in worship services
- Played several weeks each summer for “Chrysalis Retreats”, summer camps for teenagers

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Undergraduate Research Scholars Program **Spring 2007 - Fall 2008**
- Murry D. Page Endowment Scholarship **Fall 2007 - Spring 2008**
Fall 2006 - Spring 2007

- Geology and Geophysics Scholarship (A&M)
- Dean's List (Texas State)

Fall 2005 - Spring 2006
Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

TEST SCORES

GRE (taken 5/25/07)

- Verbal - 510/800
- Quantitative - 780/800
- Writing - 4/6

UPPER-LEVEL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE WORK (NON-STANDARD COURSES AND ELECTIVES)

Course descriptions come from the TAMU 2007-2008 course catalog.

GEOG 324 - Global Climatic Regions (will take Summer '08)

Climatological processes and their consequences for spatial distributions of climates; survey of earth's climates; relationships among climate, landforms, vegetation, soils and humans.

GEOL 301 – Mineral Resources

Origin, geologic relations and geographic distribution of mineral and energy resources; mineral economics, mining and reclamation and global economics in the resource industry; identification and classification of economic minerals including energy resources, base and precious metals, chemical industrial minerals and gemstones.

GEOL 307 – Dinosaur World (will take Fall '08)

Evolutionary development of dinosaurs and Mesozoic geography, climate and terrestrial environments including dinosaur morphology; evolutionary relationships; dinosaur metabolism; and constraints imposed by gigantism; their latitudinal distribution; causal mechanism for dinosaur extinction.

GEOL 410 – Hydrogeology (will take Fall '08)

Geologic conditions determining the distribution and movement of ground water and their effect on the hydrologic properties of aquifers.

GEOL 440 – Engineering Geology

Fundamentals of soil, rock and fluid mechanics and basic engineering practices as applied to the analysis of the geologic environment for engineering uses.

GEOL 451 - Introduction to Geochemistry (enrolled in Spring '08)

Chemical principles and processes responsible for the formation and cycling of earth materials, with emphasis on low temperature equilibria and kinetics in rock-water systems.

GEOS 410 - Global Change (enrolled in Spring '08)

The interaction of the earth, atmosphere, oceans, cryosphere and life, including the impact of human society on the environment and climate; global change modeling; politics, policy and decision making; and personal awareness.

GEOS 489 – Science and Politics of Global Climate Change

An examination of the policy and scientific debate over climate change; how scientific debates produce “knowledge”; how political debates produce policies; how policy debates use science; scientific evidence for climate change; impacts of climate change; possible responses to climate change; the political debate over climate change.

OCNG 440 - Introduction to Chemical Oceanography (enrolled in Spring '08)

Chemical aspects of the marine environment; biogeochemical cycles of organic and inorganic constituents; primary productivity, the carbon dioxide system, nutrient cycles, stable and radioactive isotopes in the sea.