

## ES486 Petroleum Geology Final Exam Study Guide Winter 2023

**Exam Format:** The final exam will occur on Thursday March 23, 2023, worth a total of 100 points. Exam questions will be comprised of multiple choice, true/false and short answer-fill in blank; along with short and long answer essay, and lab-style problem solving. Two-Part Exam; Part 1 - Closed Book, qualitative exam questions, short answer essay – terms and definitions, draw sketches, long answer essay – “compare and contrast”, “discuss”, “explain”. Part 2, Open Book, lab-style problem solving, you will be able to use all of your class resources to solve math-based, lab-style problems.

**Exam Logistics:** In-person exam, NS218, no time limit, but scheduled for a 2-hour block. Additional testing accommodations are possible by prior arrangement with the professor.

### Study Tips

- go through the web site, look at the figures and slide shows, compare to notes
  - review the video resources and exercise review sheets; check the lab answer keys for review
  - review textbook summary questions / answers
  - use study guide in combination with notes
  - go back through the in class / lab exercises, make sure you can work the math / units
  - spend a couple days studying, the exam will be essay and there is much material.
  - don't wait until the last minute!
  - carefully go through the notes, some of the material we briefly discussed, but did not spend much time on in class... but the notes will give you the detail
  - finish all your lab exercises and assignments before taking the exam!!! Lab questions will appear.
  - Exam format: Part 1. Closed book short answer / essay. Part 2. Open-book lab-style problem solving.
- NOTE: I would spend a minimum of 5 hours studying for this exam if I wanted to do well.**

### Exam Study Resources (Readings and Class Notes from Weeks 5 through 10)

- Text Reading: Ch. 6 – Reservoirs  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/text/Ch6\\_reservoir.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/text/Ch6_reservoir.pdf)
- Class Notes 9. Reservoir Properties  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/6\\_Reservoir\\_Characterization.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/6_Reservoir_Characterization.pdf)
- Class Notes: Traps and Seals  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/7\\_Traps\\_Seals.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/7_Traps_Seals.pdf)
- Text Reading: Ch. 7 Traps and Seals  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/text/Ch7\\_traps\\_seals.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/text/Ch7_traps_seals.pdf)
- Class Notes: Exploration  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9\\_Exploration\\_Methods.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9_Exploration_Methods.pdf)
- Text Reading: Ch. 3 Exploration  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/text/Ch3\\_exploration.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/text/Ch3_exploration.pdf)
- Class Notes: Introduction to Stratigraphic Analysis  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9A\\_Techniques\\_Intro\\_Stratigraphic\\_Analysis.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9A_Techniques_Intro_Stratigraphic_Analysis.pdf)
- Class Notes: Introduction to Seismic Stratigraphy  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9B\\_Introduction\\_Seismic\\_Stratigraphy.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9B_Introduction_Seismic_Stratigraphy.pdf)
- Text Reading: Overview of Wireline Geophysics Methods and Facies Analysis  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/Walker\\_Subsurface\\_Facies\\_Methods.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/Walker_Subsurface_Facies_Methods.pdf)
- Text Reading: Production and Recovery  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/10\\_Production\\_Recovery.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/10_Production_Recovery.pdf)
- Class Notes: Sedimentary Basins  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/8\\_Sed\\_Basins\\_Petro\\_Systems.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/8_Sed_Basins_Petro_Systems.pdf)

- Text Reading: Ch. 8 Sedimentary Basins and Petroleum Systems  
[https://people.wou.edu/~taylor/es486\\_petro/text/Ch8\\_petro\\_systems.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylor/es486_petro/text/Ch8_petro_systems.pdf)

### **Review Questions from Homework Assignments:**

- Task 5-1. Reading Review Questions: Chapter 6 Reservoirs
- Task 5-2. Video Review Exercise: Earth Revealed Geologic Time
- Task 5-3. Lecture Review Questions Univ. of Delft: Oil Migration from Source to Sink
- ~~Task 5-5. Reading Review Questions: Key Terms in Stratigraphy and Lithologic Correlation~~
- Task 6-1. Reading Review Questions: Chapter 7 Traps and Seals
- Task 6-2. Video Review Exercise: Earth Revealed Earth's Structures
- Task 6-3. Lecture Review Questions Univ. of Delft: Reservoir Properties
- Task 7-1. Reading Review Questions: Introduction to Exploration Methods
- Task 7-2. Lecture Review Questions Univ. of Delft: Traps
- Task 8-1. Key Word Review: Production and Recovery
- Task 8-2. Video Review Questions: Wire Line Logging Methods
- Task 8-3. Lecture Review Questions: Univ. Delft Basins Types and Exploration
- Task 9-1. Reading Review Questions: Ch.8 Sedimentary Basins and Petroleum System
- Task 9-2. Video Review Questions: Sedimentary Basins
- Task 10-1. Walker Text Reading Review Questions: Subsurface Methods and Facies Analysis
- ~~Task 10-2. Case Study Review Questions: Gas Reservoir Exploration in the Anadarko Basin~~

### **Lab Exercises**

- Task 5-4. Lab Exercise: Geologic Time
- Task 6-4. Lab Exercise: Subsurface Well Correlation (Complete "Part 8E, Activity 8.7")
- Task 6-5. Hydraulics Demonstration / Darcy's Law Permeameter Experiment
- Task 7-3. Class Exercise: Introduction to Contouring
- ~~Task 7-4. Class Exercise: Introduction to Isopach Maps~~
- Task 8-4. In Class Exercise: Introduction to Structure Contour Mapping
- ~~Task 9-3. Lab Exercise: Structure Contour Mapping Part 2~~

### **Student Presentations: Petroleum Basin Case Study Summaries**

Journal Reading Download Link: [https://people.wou.edu/~taylor/es486\\_petro/ES486\\_Case\\_Studies.htm](https://people.wou.edu/~taylor/es486_petro/ES486_Case_Studies.htm)

[Hudec et al., 2013, Jurassic Salt Dome Systems, Gulf of Mexico](#) [SEAN]

[Petersen et al., 2018, Source Rocks and Petroleum in Danish North Sea](#) [CATHERINE]

[Gross et al., 2018, Petroleum Systems North Alpine Foreland Basin, Austria](#) [JEN]

[Kohl et al., 2014, Gas Reservoirs in the Marcellus Shale, Appalachian Basin](#) [ELDEN]

[Tozer et al., 2014, Athabasca Oil Sands](#) [DAVIS]

## Recommendation:

Review Selley “Essentials of Petroleum Geology” Text Chapters (posted on Moodle class site); Review class notes on ES486 web site; review class slide shows and text review questions

## KEY WORD SUMMARY

### *Reservoirs (Selley Chapter 6)*

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/6\\_Reservoir\\_Characterization.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/6_Reservoir_Characterization.pdf)

Porosity  
Effective porosity  
Total porosity  
Primary porosity  
Secondary porosity  
Intergranular porosity  
Fracture porosity  
Solution porosity  
“Vuggy Porosity”  
Intercrystalline porosity  
Cementation/compaction  
Diagenesis  
permeability  
permeability vs. porosity vs. lithology  
Darcy’s Law  
Millidarcy  
100 md reservoir threshold  
Viscosity  
Permeameter  
Horizontal vs. vertical permeability  
Homogenous vs. heterogeneous  
Anisotropic vs. Isotropic  
Artesian Reservoirs (gushers)  
Texture vs. Permeability vs. Porosity  
Grain Shape-Sorting-Grain Size  
Clay/shale vs. Sand/Sandstone  
Grain packing; grain fabric  
Sandstone/Limestone  
Reservoirs  
Shale/Mudstone Seals  
Diagenesis effects on Reservoir  
Clay alteration  
Authigenic Clay

Feldspar degradation  
Porosity loss vs. compaction  
Cementation vs. porosity  
Depth-compaction curves  
Clay diagenesis / dewatering  
Carbonate diagenesis  
Dolomitization  
Calcite-Dolomite  
Transformation  
Reservoir shape / continuity  
Sheet vs. ribbon vs. pod

### *Traps and Seals (Selley Chapter 7)*

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/7\\_Traps\\_Seals.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/7_Traps_Seals.pdf)

Trap vs. Seal  
Oil-Water Contact (OWC)  
Bottom water  
Edge water  
Bottom oil / tar mats  
Fluid contacts  
Shale Seal  
Trap Classification  
Structural traps  
    Fold traps  
    Fault traps  
Diapir Traps  
    Salt Domes  
Stratigraphic Traps  
    Pinch out  
    Interfingering  
    Unconformable  
    Channel / ribbons  
    Barrier Island Bars  
    Reefs  
Combination Traps  
Compressional Anticlines  
Compactional Anticlines  
“Drape Anticlines”  
Drag Folds  
Faults – normal-reverse-thrust  
Block faulting  
Strike-slip faults  
Transcurrent faults  
Tranpression/transtension  
Pull-apart basins  
Updip / downdip  
Growth faults

Onlap-Offlap  
Transgression-Regression

### *Sedimentary Basins and Petroleum Systems (Selley Chapter 8)*

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/8\\_Sed\\_Basins\\_Petro\\_Systems.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/8_Sed_Basins_Petro_Systems.pdf)

Sedimentary Basin  
Structural vs. Topographic Basin  
Marine vs. nonmarine basins  
Symmetrical vs. asymmetrical  
Depocenter  
Basin Mechanisms  
    Thermal contraction  
    Crustal extension  
    Crustal compression  
    Crustal loading  
Cratonic Basins  
Intracratonic Sag  
Passive Margin Loading  
Forearc Basins  
Backarc Basins  
Foreland (Thrust) Basins  
Rift Basins  
Aulacogen  
Strike-Slip Basins  
Pull-Apart Basins

### *Petroleum Exploration Methods (Selley Chapter 3)*

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9\\_Exploration\\_Methods.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9_Exploration_Methods.pdf)

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9A\\_Techniques\\_Intro\\_Stratigraphic\\_Analysis.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9A_Techniques_Intro_Stratigraphic_Analysis.pdf)

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/9B\\_Introduction\\_Seismic\\_Stratigraphy.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/9B_Introduction_Seismic_Stratigraphy.pdf)

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/Walker\\_Subsurface\\_Facies\\_Methods.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/Walker_Subsurface_Facies_Methods.pdf)

Drilling Techniques  
Cable tool – mud rotary  
Directional drilling  
Drill rods  
Kelley bushing  
Tri-cone roller bit  
Drill stem  
Drilling derrick  
Drilling mast  
Offshore / onshore rigs

Mud logging  
 Coring / sidewall coring  
 Wireline logs  
 Electrical logs  
 Caliper logs  
 Temperature logs  
 Pressure logs  
 SP  
 Resistivity  
 Gamma Ray  
 Density Logs  
 Porosity logs  
 Neutron Logs  
 Seismic surveys  
 Seismic Lines  
 Seismic Refraction  
 Data processing  
 Seismic Reflection  
 Gravity Surveying  
 Magnetic Surveying  
 Remote Sensing  
 Well correlation  
 Isopach map  
 Structure contour map  
 Facies map  
 Seismic facies analysis  
 Stratigraphic analysis

### *Production and Recovery*

[https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486\\_petro/10\\_Production\\_Recovery.pdf](https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/es486_petro/10_Production_Recovery.pdf)

Residual Oil  
 Reserve Oil  
 Unrecoverable Oil  
 Attic Oil  
 Primary Recovery  
 Secondary Recovery  
 Tertiary Recovery  
 Water Drive  
 Gas Drive  
 Waterflood Recovery  
 Viscosity Factor vs. Recovery  
 Enhanced Oil Recovery  
 Oilfield Brine  
 Thermal Recovery  
 Steam Drive  
 Polymer Recovery  
 Explosive Fracturing  
 Hydraulic Fracturing  
 Brine Disposal

Well Production  
 Well Testing  
 Petroleum Recovery Curve

### *Case Studies / Student*

#### *Presentations*

[http://www.wou.edu/las/physci/taylor/es486\\_petro/ES486\\_Case\\_Studies.htm](http://www.wou.edu/las/physci/taylor/es486_petro/ES486_Case_Studies.htm)

rift basin  
 forearc basin  
 back arc basin  
 foreland basin  
 aulacogen  
 half graben  
 normal faults  
 TOC  
 Seismic lines  
 Seismic reflection  
 Basin analysis  
 Vitrinite reflectance  
 Thermal maturation  
 Fracture reservoirs  
 Fracture permeability  
 Migration pathways  
 Tar Sands  
 Flexure loading  
~~Canadian Shield~~  
 Bitumen  
 Breached anticline  
 Heavy oil  
 Asphaltic bitumen  
 Delta systems  
 Regression-transgression  
 Source terrane  
 Rift zone  
 Catchment analysis  
 Petrophysical analysis  
 Shale gas reservoirs  
 Free gas vs. dissolved gas  
 “tight” reservoirs  
 Heterogeneity  
 Salt domes  
 Diapir  
 Louann Salt  
 Triassic Rift Basin  
 Flexure Zone  
 Deep Gulf Basin  
 Sequence stratigraphy  
 Formation-member  
 Lithic vs. gamma ray logs

Transgression/regression  
 Isopach maps  
 Jurassic-Cretaceous  
 Giant Oil Field  
 North sea  
 Rift basin  
 Seismic profile  
 Reservoir architecture  
 Synrift sediments  
 Postrift sediments  
 Fault blocks  
 Thrust Fault-Foreland  
 Fault Traps  
 Petroleum System  
 Sandstone wedges  
 Carbonate Ramps  
 Carbonate Reservoir  
 Reef Reservoir  
 Thrust-anticline trap  
 Fault block / extension  
 Turbidites  
 Source rocks  
 Trap rocks  
 Secondary porosity  
 Syncline-anticline  
 Unconventional reservoirs  
 Facies analysis  
 Wireline log  
 Shelf-offshore facies  
 Well correlation  
 Paleogeography  
 Biostratigraphy  
 Carbonate platform  
 Oolitic Limestone  
 Dolomite – vuggy porosity  
 Solution porosity  
 Diagenetic traps  
 Source rock maturation  
 Extension  
 Rift tectonics  
 Heat flow  
 Burial  
 Synrift sedimentation  
 depocenter  
 Subsidence history  
 Thermal migration  
 Tight-gas sandstone  
 3-D Seismic  
 Fault trends  
 Fracture analysis

## Quantitative / Lab Skills

### *Quantitative Skills*

Perform basic unit conversions-unit algebra-solve quantitative word problems

Process Rate Calculations

porosity-density-specific weight-pressure-temperature-depth calculations

### *Subsurface Mapping*

Contouring-contour interval-contour interpolation-drawing contour lines

Isopach mapping

Structure Contour Mapping

Strike / Dip

### ~~Constructing Paleofacies Maps~~

Identifying geologic structures (faults, folds) from structure contour and isopach maps

Identifying stratigraphic features (unconformities, transgression, regressions) from structure contour and isopach maps

### *Stratigraphic/Log Correlation*

Identify rock types and stratigraphic assemblages from well cuttings.

Identify formations-members-beds from lithologic logs

Correlate lithologic logs-define geologic/stratigraphic contacts in cross-section

Create a stratigraphic column from log data, to scale, and correlate lithologic units

Identifying stratigraphic features (unconformities, transgression, regressions) from well correlation, cross-section and stratigraphic columns

## Big Concepts for Essay Questions

~~Discuss Porosity and Permeability, how measured? What is darcy's law? Units and equation?~~

List and discuss the concepts of reservoir, trap, seal; provide geologic examples.

What types of rocks are typical in reservoir.

Discuss the classification of traps.

What is a sedimentary basin? Classify and describe sedimentary basins in relation to plate tectonics.

What is the difference between a structural and stratigraphic trap, provide examples with sketches.

How is geophysics used in petroleum exploration?

What are the main wireline geophysics methods we used in the lab exercises to correlate strata?

What are the steps required for the exploration and discovery of petroleum?

What are the primary drilling techniques used in exploration? Sketch and discuss.

How do salt domes form and why are they important with respect to petroleum exploration?

Summarize the key concepts of the three student presentations from the case study review.

What are the primary sedimentary environments and how do they relate to source-reservoir-trap-seal?

What geologic conditions lead to the accumulation of economically viable hydrocarbon deposits?

What types of diagenetic processes lead to reservoir degradation?

List the primary types of faults and sketch

Draw a sketch and label structure features associated with salt domes and related traps.

List the primary types of traps, draw sketches

~~Describe the stages of petroleum maturation from primary organic material to kerogen to oil/gas.~~

~~What is the difference between kerogen and bitumen?~~

~~What are the primary components of source material (carbohydrates, lipids, lignins, proteins)~~

~~What are temperature-related stages of thermal maturation?~~

How do compaction, cementation, fracturing effect petroleum forming processes?

What are the primary types of reservoir rock, describe their shapes in relation to depositional environments.

What is the difference between bottom water and edge water?

What are the primary types of sedimentary basins? Explain how they form in the context of tectonic setting.

Compare and contrast foreland basins to rift basins, include structural style and subsidence mechanisms.

What are the primary processes that cause basin subsidence and sediment accumulation.

Provide examples of real-world oil fields as related to the student presentations. Where to they form and what environments lead to commercial quantities of hydrocarbons.