

# GEOL 1122 Walker notes

## Note on second week of classes:

Both classes are now running together. We've been exploring how burial and weathering processes affect the global carbon reservoir as represented by CO<sub>2</sub>. We've discussed several scales of data: over large scales of time (up to 600 million years) and shorter scales of time (up to 5 million years). Stephanie asked: what about the scales of *Homo sapien sapien* (i.e., modern human) time? I'll start the class on Wednesday with a slide indicating the most recent climate/CO<sub>2</sub> data. After discussing that, we'll move on to the next topics: how geologists/paleontologists use radioactive decay in determining absolute time in the rock record and how geologists/paleontologists use fossils to tell relative time in the rock record. We'll finish this lecture on Friday.

## What to read for Wednesday and Friday, Sept. 3 and 5th?

*Radioactive decay*, Chap. 6, pp. 139-145.  
*Relative Age dating*, including *Principles of Geology*: Chap. 1, pp. 4-6; p. 9 (Steno)-13.  
 Chap. 6, pp. 129-135.

Figures from : IPCC 2007: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007.  
<http://www.ipcc.ch/graphics/>

