

September 18, 2020
MSE 2101 topics

- Putting it all together: the age of Earth
 - zirconium silicate crystals
 - Moon rocks
 - meteorites
- Life in “Hell”?
 - atmosphere and oceans?
 - heavy bombardment → sterilizing impacts
 - using craters to get rough ages in the solar system
- What drives geology on Earth (and other worlds)?
 - The sources of internal heat: collisions, gravity, radioactivity
- Plate tectonics
 - Wegener’s model of continental drifts
 - Seafloor spreading
 - Differences in seafloor and continental plates
 - Subduction, spreading, faults and hot spots
- Atmosphere longevity
 - solar wind stripping
 - impacts and collisions
 - thermal escape
- The source of magnetic field revisited
 - electrically conducting fluid/gas
 - convection in such a layer
 - moderately rapid rotation