Gavin Blanchard

Education

BS, Geology: Louisiana State University: 2021–Current

- Courses:
  - GEOL 4060: Solid Earth Geophysics
  - GEOL 3909: Geological Research
  - PHYS 2110: Particle Mechanics
  - GEOL 3071: Structural Geology
  - GEOL 3041: Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology
  - GEOL 2081: Mineralogy
  - GEOL 2001: The Earth as a Planetary System
  - GEOL 3666: Field Geology
  - GEOL 3061: Evolution of the Biosphere
  - GEOL 3032: Introduction to Sedimentology and Depositional Environments
- Currently Scheduled Courses:
  - GEOL 4066: Plate Tectonics
  - GEOL 3999: Undergraduate Thesis in Geology
  - PHYS 2113: Fields: Gravity, Electricity, and Magnetism

Research Interests

The mechanisms, physics, and theory of plate tectonics; mantle physics and convection; isostasy; paleogeographic reconstruction; paleobiogeography as it relates to tectonic forces; vertebrate paleontology

Research Experience

- GEOL 3909 & GEOL 3999: Undergraduate Research and Thesis in Geology: LSU Department of Geology and Geophysics: 2024–Current
  - "Characterization of the Ordovician Taconic Orogeny Through Geochemical Analysis of the Deicke Volcanic Ash Bed": Using LA-LIBS-ICP-MS analysis of apatites and geochronological analysis of zircons to characterize the nature of the tectonic setting of the Taconic Orogeny
- GEOL 3666: Field Geology: 2023
  - Determining the shape and depth of the meadow sediment basin on field camp property using gravitational and seismic surveys; geologic mapping; stratigraphic column measurement and correlation; and sediment provenance
- Paleoclimate and Atlantic Studies Laboratory: LSU Department of Geography and Anthropology: 2021–2023
  - Sediment core splitting, logging, and imaging
- LSU Museum of Natural Science: 2024–Current
  - 3D imaging of duck skulls for ecological and phylogenetic analysis and mapping using geometric morphometric landmarking techniques

Technical Experience

- Microsoft Office
- MATLAB
- QGIS
- DZStats & DZMDS

Certifications

- DINO 101: Dinosaur Paleobiology, The University of Alberta: 2024

Awards

- Best Geologic Mapper: Geology Field Camp: 2023
- Dean's List: LSU: 2023–2024

Extracurricular Activities

- Louisiana Museum of Art and Science Dino Day Volunteer: 2025
- LSU Museum of Natural Science Paleontology Special Saturdays Speaker: 2025
- LSU Museum of Natural Science Vertebrate Paleontology Collections Volunteer: 2022–Current
- LSU Museum of Natural Science Ornithology Collections Volunteer: 2024–Current
- Geology Club Member: 2022–Current