

GEO 102 – Principles of Geology

Geology Journal – Lab Semester Project

In order to demonstrate the relevance of Geology to your lives, you will compile a journal illustrating the connection between things that are familiar to you and the concepts that will be introduced in the course. One way to do this is to make you aware of Geology in the news. Another way is to make connections by finding the "Geology" in familiar objects. For this assignment, I want you to focus on the things you can "clip" and put in a scrapbook.

Scrapbook Items:

Over the course of the semester, collect news articles, postcards, photos, advertisements, and other images that illustrate one aspect or another of Geology. The assignment is to find the "Geology" in things that will be familiar to you; things that will help you see the connection between the outside world and the Geology lessons. For this reason, you must not use materials from textbooks and other prepared curriculum materials including those found on government and university web sites. Some magazines, like Scientific American, National Geographic, and Discover, have articles that look and sound very much like text books. They are nice resource materials, but for this assignment no more than 50% of your captioned items should be articles of this nature. To discourage the use of textbook photos, the backside of all clipped images must be accessible. Electronic images are not permitted, with the exception of those that are contained in news articles and those that you can demonstrate are your personal photos (e.g. they contain you or a close family member). Suggested sources for images include advertising imagery, post cards, vacation pictures, and travel brochures.

Captions:

The captions are the core of the assignment, where you will demonstrate the depth and breadth of what you have learned in the course. Each item must have a caption that contains: 1) Geology content information - pretend you are explaining what the item depicts to a colleague who does not know any Geology and 2) information about the source of the item. Figuring out what Geology content belongs in the caption may seem difficult at first. However; it usually only requires a bit of brainstorming. For example, when looking at a picture, ask yourself "what do I see?" If the answer is "a river", then brainstorm on what you have learned about rivers in this class. You might remember that a river represents an area where erosion, transport, or deposition of sediment is occurring. You could then incorporate this information into your caption. Newspaper articles provide headlines which consist of descriptive words, but they often don't give much in the way of geologic background information. For example, after an earthquake in Turkey, an article will describe the destruction but will not tell you where Turkey is relative to the plate boundaries and what tectonic process probably caused a large earthquake there. An article might focus on the plants and animals living in a swamp but it will not mention what type of geologic environment is represented or what type of rock is forming there. The information regarding the source of the item should include the title of the publication, a volume and page number if appropriate, and a date. If a news item was found on the web, then you must include the web address, the name of the organization responsible for the web site and the date the item was downloaded.

Organization and Binding:

The scrapbook must be organized into sections by topic; it's OK to have only one item under a topic heading. Each caption must be numbered to facilitate counting them. You may put your captions or portions of your captions on a separate page as long as they and the items they belong to are numbered. You can use a scrapbook, composition book, folder with clasps, loose-leaf binder or any other binding system that you like. My only requirement is that your scrapbook be a single coherent item with no chance of the captions becoming loose and mingling with other people's captions while they are being graded. As mentioned above, the backside of clipped images must be accessible. Therefore, **do not glue**

them to the pages of your scrapbook. You can use tape loops, double-sided tape on corners, photo corners or any other means to attach clipped images that will allow the backside to be viewed.

Grading Guide

	Best (5 pts)	Good (4 pts)	Passing (3 pts)
Number of captioned items: (15%)	10*	7*	5*
Variety: (10%)	at least 6 topics** 4 or more sources*** A mix of pictures and news stories or articles	at least 4 topics** at least 3 sources*** heavily articles or news stories; only pictures	at least 3 topics** at least 2 sources*** all articles or news stories
Percent of content correct: (25%)	90%	70%	50%
Quality of content: (40%)	Geology content information unfamiliar to lay persons is applied to each item, in many cases caption includes information about geologic processes. Caption is in students own words and it is clear that ideas have not been cribbed from item's source.	Geology content information unfamiliar to lay persons is applied to each item, in some cases caption includes information about geologic processes. Caption is in student's own words.	Two thirds of the captions include Geology content information unfamiliar to lay persons. Caption is in student's own words.
Professionalism of presentation: (10%)	Items are neat and aesthetically presented, organized by topic, captions typed, all items are fully referenced.	Items are neat, most items are referenced, and captions are typed.	Captions are legible; most items are referenced, some items missing parts or references.

* Items from textbook, prepared curriculum materials, government or university web sites and electronic images (with exceptions discussed above) are not permitted.

**Examples of topics: streams, soil, sedimentary rocks, metamorphic rocks, igneous rocks, volcanoes, minerals, etc.

***Examples of sources: magazine ad, travel brochure, magazine article, newspaper, worldwide web, personal travel photos, postcards, national park brochures.

Deadline:

November 13 or 15: Portfolio will be handed in to your TA during your assigned lab section.