

## **Black Hills Field Course -- Format of the paper / report and evaluation**

The goal of this paper is to describe the geologic setting, geologic history, and the particular aspect of interest of your chosen topic. Your paper should be an adequate, professional, and even rigorous overview of the chosen topic (appropriate to your standing, freshman to senior). It should be supported by graphics, by citations in the text to reference sources, and a well-presented list of reference sources.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Introduce your topic. Provide the location (state, county, latitude, longitude) and description of the area. Your description should be accompanied by a labeled map,

### **PREVIOUS STUDIES**

Summarize some important previous studies that have been made in the region. The summary should include a reference to both early and most recent studies. One of the main purposes of this section is to introduce any different hypotheses that may exist to explain the geologic phenomenon you are discussing.

### **YOUR TOPIC**

Discuss the details of the specific topic you have chosen. Include referenced figures.

### **FIGURES**

Each figure should be labeled in order with a caption. EACH FIGURE must be called out in the text and serve a purpose. Do not insert "random" figures just for decoration.

Example of Figure Caption:

Figure 8. Photo of stromatolites at the Thunder Mine. Note the mm-scale banding. (from (Smith, 2016).

Use of your own figures / photos is encouraged! Any other photos / maps / figures must be credited by author (not just "google" - google will not be not the author).

### **TABLES**

Same treatment as Figures. Use journal articles as models for how to present tables.

### **REFERENCES**

All references must be cited, and only cited references should be in the list.

References cited as sources for figures should be included in the list.

The list should be in order by last name of the first author.

Use a style similar to the Geological Society of America Bulletin for your References.

See this website for examples of GSA style: [libguides.com.edu/GSARefrenceList](http://libguides.com.edu/GSARefrenceList)

Here are some examples :

**NOTE** the indentation of second line onwards.

Journal articles:

Author, date, Title of article: Journal, volume, pages.

Example:

Leigh, D.S., 1994, Roxana silt of the Upper Mississippi Valley: Lithology, source, and paleoenvironment: Geological Society of America Bulletin, v. 106, p. 430–442.

Books:

Author, Date, Title of Book (edition): Place of publication, Publisher, pages.

Drever, J. I., 1988, The geochemistry of natural waters (second edition): Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice Hall, 437 p.

Edited Books:

Authors, date, Title of article, in Editors, Title of Edited Book, pages.

Zimmerman, J., Axel, R.S., 1989, Tectonic setting of olistostromal units and associated rocks in the Talladega slate belt, Alabama Appalachinas, in Horton, J. W., and Rast, N., eds., Melanges and olistostromes of the Appalachians: Geological Society of America Special Paper 228, p. 247-269

Web pages:

Author, Year of publication, Title of webpage: URL (date that site was accessed).

Scotese, C.R., 2003, PALEOMAP Project: [www.scotese.com](http://www.scotese.com) (accessed August 24, 2011).

Geologic maps:

Author, date, Map name: Place of publication, Publisher, Scale.

Staikopoulos, G. and Efstratiades, G., 1987, Geological map of Greece, Akhlahdhokhorion sheet: Athens, Inst. of Geol. and Mineral Expl., scale 1:50,000.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Will not be tolerated. See NDSU's Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct ([www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm](http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm))

## **SUBMISSION**

Before submitting your paper, proofread it and have another person proofread it.

Save your paper as a .pdf – no .doc or .docx versions will be accepted.

Submit the .pdf version of your paper in Blackboard.

(credit: How to write a geological paper,

<http://davehirsch.com/other/howtosci/main.html>)

## EVALUATION

### Evaluation of Black Hills paper

Name:

Topic:

|   |   |      |
|---|---|------|
| Introduction                            | The introduction states the main topic and previews the paper   | /5   |
| Information / Interpretation            | Scientific concepts presented are complete, correct and correctly interpreted   | /30  |
| Body                                    | Each paragraph has thoughtful supporting detail sentences that develop the main idea  | /30  |
| Organization and Structural Development | Writer demonstrates logical sequencing of ideas through well-developed paragraphs; transitions enhance organization                                       | /20  |
| Mechanics / Usage                       | Appropriate sectioning; No errors in punctuation, capitalization and spelling. No errors in sentence structure and word usage; appropriate use of figures | /10  |
| Citations / Bibliography                | Citations and references are in the correct format with no errors   | /5   |
|   |   | /100 |

Comments: