

CE 20500
ENGINEERING GEOLOGY
TERM PAPER GUIDELINES
SPRING 2012

The term paper is an essay on the *importance of geology or geological concepts to civil engineering*.

You are free to make this topic as broad or as specific as you wish, i.e. you can present a general overview of the subject, or you can focus on one specific incident/topic (e.g., summer internship project).

⇒ **If you choose to write a general overview, please *do not* present your particular subject using lecture material!**

Please support your statements with evidences/references. Make sure to properly cite all sources (papers, books, internet, etc). The evidence/references you supply for your discussion will be the basis of the majority of your grade.

ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) outcome addressed:

“CE students will have knowledge of contemporary issues in civil engineering, and the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global and societal context.”

DUE DATE: The research paper is due on **Tuesday, May 1st, 2012**.

A “hard copy” of the final paper should be submitted.

Recommended guidelines for format:

Format: The paper should be 5-10 pages in length and should have the following format: 1½ line spacing; 12 point font (Times Roman); left justified; 1-inch margins on all sides; page numbering

Title page: Include your name and course number.

Introduction/Background: Description of the topic in general terms. This could include the following, if applicable: What is the underlying problem or issue? Is the problem man-made

or natural? Is the issue local, regional, national or global in scale? Why is this topic important, what effect does it have on man and/or nature?

Discussion: Thorough discussion of the topic. This should include the importance of the subject you have chosen to civil engineering.

Conclusions: Recap the main points you covered. Briefly indicate if there are any possible solutions to the problem.

References: All material and sources used for the term paper must be cited within the text. References are cited by author(s) and year in brackets at the end of the relevant sentence (Smith, 2007; Smith and Anderson, 2005; Smith et al., 2009 to cite more than two authors). Each cited reference has to be reported at the end of the paper, in alphabetical order, including the title of the paper or book. No footnotes.

Reference Format Example:

Gardner, J.T. and Ashmore P.E., 2011. Geometry and grain-size characteristics of the basal surface of a braided river deposit. *Geology* 39, 247-250.

Information Sources: Appropriate references include journal articles, books, book chapters and government reports. If you chose to use online sources, make sure the information provided is supported by references.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious offense and will result in failure of the course. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, or for techniques on how to avoid it, please see <http://www.nd.edu/~writing/resources/AvoidingPlagiarism.html> and <http://www.nd.edu/~hnrcode>.

Examples of term paper topics that were considered 'excellent' choices:

1. Offshore Wind Turbine Foundations in Lake Erie.
2. Land Subsidence in Mexico City.
3. Engineering in Glaciated Regions.
4. Kansai International Airport: Tied to its Seabed Geology.
5. Geology and Construction on the Alaskan Permafrost.
6. Marsh Degradation and its Effects on Hurricane Storm Surge.
7. Preserving a Treasured Coastline: Cape Cod.