

Geology 4002 Earth Materials and the Environment

Dr. Dutrow

Research Project Assignment

Choose a research topic of choice and discuss the topic with Dr. Dutrow. This topic should be related to *Earth Materials and the Environment* in the broadest sense. You should gather and synthesize information on this topic and present a concise synopsis of this information to the class in oral form (with necessary props), and hand in a typewritten term paper. You should use your critical thinking skills in evaluating data and in conducting research. Research materials should include peer reviewed scientific journal articles and may also include information from books, government reports, and WWW. Do not base your research only on un-reviewed data. Recall what we have learned in class about risk assessment, evaluating scientific data, etc.

1. Format of written presentation:

The papers should be about 10 typewritten double-spaced pages. This does not include references or figures. The organization of the paper should be:

- (a) Abstract
- (b) Introduction
- (c) Data
- (d) Results/Discussion
- (e) Summary/Conclusions
- (f) References cited

the format for references cited should be according to the *American Mineralogist*

Last Name, First, 19xx. Title of paper, full name of journal, vol:pages.

for web citations: give the complete link: www.xxx.xxx.xxx/xxx/xxx.

2. Format of Oral presentation:

Oral presentations are set for May 3, no excuses. Because of the class size, we need to have at least 3 presentations April 26. Presentations should be approximately 10 minutes in length, with 5 minutes for questions. Prepare as many overheads and handouts as you feel necessary to summarize your data, and education us on the topic. Be prepared. Practice, do NOT go over the time allotted.

This will count for approximately 20% of your grade, and therefore must reflect time and energy.