

Writing Your Paper for Geology 131

Guidelines

1. Your paper should be 5 pages or longer. If the major part of it is a computer program that you write, then it can be somewhat shorter.

2. Sections of your paper should include:

Abstract (a short paragraph summarizing your paper)

Introduction (what is the point of the paper?)

Main body of paper (a detailed description of your topic)

Discussion or Conclusions (summarize your main points)

References (bibliography)

Figures can either be embedded in the text or at the end. All figures should have figure captions

2. Make sure you use proper grammar and spelling! Use a spell checker.

3. References. More credit if you use more references. 10 references is generally considered a minimum. Use a standard form for the bibliography, such as:

Author names, Title of article or book, publisher, pages, date.

If you use web sites, put them into a "Notes" section, and state when the URL was accessed.

Note that Google Scholar is very helpful for finding reference articles.