Writing Your Paper for Geology 131

Guidelines

1. Your paper should be 3-5 pages single spaced or equivalent. 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.