Instructions for Writing Your Papers in EPS/Geology 131
Use of AI Chatbots and Grading Rubric

We are going to do something a little different this year in this course. You are encouraged to use ChatGPT or other chatbots (Google Bard, Heypi, etc.) to write a paper.

However, it must be in the assigned format as below. In addition, if you choose to use a chatbot, you should be aware that these AI bots can "hallucinate". Which means that it makes up references and facts that don't actually exist. And its actually pretty easy to tell if a chatbot has been used. For example, when it lists references, it often takes names at random, combines them with titles at random, and journal citations at random.

So if you do choose to use a chatbot, you will then be required to write a 1+ page commentary on what it got right and what it got wrong, in addition to the paper itself. This will (hopefully) provide you with a habit of checking carefully to see whether the output of the chatbot is correct or not. This commentary should consist of 1000+ words.

If you use ChatGPT or equivalent to write your paper, you will find that it makes errors, and tends to "hallucinate" (technical word !), especially with the references. You are to then write a commentary describing what the errors are.

Probably the best way to proceed is to write a commentary in which you correct all the errors in the ChatGPT version, and then highlight the corrections.

You would then upload the original paper and the corrected highlighted paper as one pdf file. Remember to follow the format specified in both versions.

In terms of grading, you will be graded on the content of the paper and the commentary (60%), and the format (40%).

Paper Guidelines

1.   Your paper should be 4-7 pages single spaced or equivalent, about 2000+ words.   If the major part of it is a computer program that you write, then it can be somewhat shorter (see below). Extra credit if you include figures (>3) and tables in the paper. And with the figures, make sure you include sources (where you got the figures).

   If your project does include a computer code, be sure to include the listing of the code. Please do not just submit a code and expect me to run it, instead you should run it and produce images or other results, as well as a

description of what you did and why. In that case, the length of the description should be 2-3 pages, including images or other results.

2.   Sections of your paper should include:

Abstract (a short paragraph summarizing your paper, about 5-8 sentences)

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 and tables either be embedded in the text or at the end. All figures should have captions that include the source of the figure/table/data.

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

3.   Bibliography/References. More credit if you use more references. 15 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.

The citations should be inline in the text, either in the form of (Author Name, date of publication), or as numbered citations corresponding to numbering in the Bibliography.

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.

Please do note the example paper included nearby that demonstrates how the format of the paper should be constructed.