Term Paper Guidelines

You are required to write a term paper for Geol 344. The deadline for submission of the paper will be Wednesday, December 4th, in class. You will be penalized a 5% deduction for each day that the paper is handed in late. As this is dead week, do not wait until the last minute to start the term paper, as this will not leave you with sufficient time to do a good job. Remember, this paper counts for 10% of your final grade.

The topic of the term paper will be a synopsis of the historic earthquakes that occurred in a particular state of the U.S.A. (e.g., in the form of a table or a list). Each student will be assigned a different state, to be decided a few weeks into the semester. Also provide specific details about major earthquake events, the tectonic setting of your state, and the amount of earthquake preparedness that exists in the state.

The format of your paper must follow the guidelines presented below. You will lose points if you fail to follow these directions.

Paper Format

1. Length: the text portion of the paper must be between 2 and 4 pages in length. All pages must be numbered sequentially in the bottom center of the page.

2. Figures: you must include figures and may use as many figures as you feel necessary to bolster the content of your paper. The number of pages of figures is not included in the 2–4 page limit for the text. All figures must be placed at the end of the text, and they must all be clearly labeled with a figure number and a caption (e.g., Fig. 1: Earthquake probabilities along the San Andreas Fault during the period 2002–2013. Taken from http://www.sanandreasfault.com/nicepic.jpg). All figures must be referred to sequentially in the main text using the figure numbers.


4. Borders and line spacing: you must use 1” borders all-round and 1.5 line spacing.

5. Title and Headings: your paper must have a format similar to that of a published paper. This will include a title at the top of the first page, followed by your name and university affiliation. The different sections of the paper must then be presented using boldface headings and (if necessary) italicized subheadings. Your paper must start with an Introduction section, followed by the main body of the text, then a Conclusions section at the end, then the Figures and, finally, a list of References used in the paper (including website addresses).

Searching for References

You must utilize at least three reference materials when researching your paper. These references may include book sections, published journal papers, and periodical articles. In addition, you may reference as many websites as you wish. One exception though: you may not use Wikipedia as an original source (although you are welcome to trace the original source of information presented on Wikipedia and use that). Each reference must be listed in your References section (see below for format of References section). You must also indicate how you obtained each of the references you cite (e.g., from the UI Library, from a website, a newspaper article, etc.). It is extremely important that you do not copy portions of text verbatim from reference materials, as this constitutes plagiarism. If I determine that you have plagiarized text, you will receive an automatic grade of F on the paper. You must summarize your findings in your own words.
Format of in-text citations

You must use the following format when listing references within your text:

_When included within a sentence of text:_ Bloggs & Dufus (2008); Oddfellow et al. (2006).

e.g., This hypothesis was initially proposed by Oddfellow et al. (2006).

_At the end of a sentence or parenthetically within a sentence:_ (Oddfellow et al., 2006; Bloggs & Dufus, 2008).

e.g., This hypothesis was based on field observations in Utah (Oddfellow et al., 2006).

When multiple references are referred to together, list them in alphabetical order, by first author. When referring to a book, indicate the page numbers (e.g., Yeats et al. (1997, p.212) suggested that...).

A good source for locating potential references for your term paper is GeoRef, the geological reference database. You can search this database by keyword or topic (among many other possibilities) to locate articles relevant to your topic. You can then locate the articles in the library or request an article using the interlibrary loan service available on the UI Library website at [http://www.lib.uidaho.edu](http://www.lib.uidaho.edu)

To access GeoRef, access the UI library website listed above then click on the “Articles” tab. Click on the letter “G” then click on “GeoRef.” You can search articles by keyword (e.g., “California earthquakes”).

Format of References List

Depending on the type of reference used, the format of references will vary. Use the examples below to help you in formatting your list of references at the end of your document. All references must be in alphabetical order, by first author. In the case of multiple references having the same first author, list these in chronological order.

_Journal Articles:_


_Books and Book Sections:_


_Conference Abstracts:_


_Websites:_
