**Rubric Elements for Lithologic Descriptions and Memoirs**

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| **Dimension** | **Needs Improvement (3)** | **Satisfactory (4)** | **Exceptional (5)** | **Score** |
| 1. Lithologic Description  *(knowledge, skill)* | Description includes general information on rock type, mineralogy, grain size, and texture. | Description includes accurate information on rock type, mineralogy, grain size, and, texture, in largely clear and appropriate language. | Description includes accurate information on rock type, mineralogy, grain size and range, texture, and special characteristics, in clear language with proper syntax and grammar. |  |
| 2. Geologic Interpretation  *(knowledge, skill)* | Geologic interpretations have some support by measurements; inferred elements are not distinguished from those directly observed. | Geologic interpretations are supported by measurements; inferred elements are not distinguished from those directly observed; both small and large scale features are represented. | Geologic interpretations are directly supported by structural or stratigraphic measurements; inferred elements are distinguished from those directly observed; both small and large scale features are represented. |  |
| 3. Supporting materials, such as stereonet plots, data tables, photographs, etc. *(skill, affect)* | Supportive materials are largely superfluous and not directly tied to inferences; measurements (scale, angles, etc.) are accurate; materials are clear/focused and legible | Supporting materials are tied to general inferences; measurements (scale, angles, etc.) are largely accurate; materials are clear/focused. | Supporting materials are directly tied to specific inferences; measurements (scale, angles, etc.) are accurate; materials are clear/focused and legible |  |
| 4. Tectonic Synthesis  *(knowledge, affect)*  *note: for memoir tasks only* | A few preceding components are referred to or presented without synthesis; “big picture” is incomplete, lacking detail on materials or structural features; conclusions are incomplete or unsubstantiated by data. | Most preceding components are synthesized or at least referred to; “big picture” develops overall framework of materials and structural features; conclusions have some support in data. | All preceding components, listed above, are synthesized as primary data; “big picture” of evolutionary history of materials and structural features well developed; all conclusions are well supported by data. |  |
| 5. Presentation  *(Skill, Affect)* | Generally neat, but frequent erasures and changes made on final map; layout of legend, key, etc., distracts from map or cross-section presentation, or is in an incorrect form. | Clean, neat; layout of legend, key, etc., is clear and supportive of map presentation. The “big picture” is clear from the map and supporting materials. | Clean, neat; meets or approaches professional standards; layout of legend, key, etc., is clear and supportive of map presentation. Attention to detail is evident. |  |