

Geophysics of the News Project

I choose topics each year (this is a Fall course) depending on what has been going on over the late summer-early fall. Some locations are always on the list – Iraq, Israel etc, but they are interesting geophysically! I do try to change the topics some just for more interest. Iceland got on the list from being the site of a G 8 conference; any big earthquakes over the summer also add locations.

Hardest part of the assignment for the students is getting some actual geophysical information they can present. The plate tectonic situation of the locale is usually easy to portray, but some students don't get beyond this.

I also spend some time talking about constructive criticism of each others presentations. The speakers are also asked to fill out a critique on themselves. We have a form (attached) that all of us use to standardize the process. This is the first of three oral projects spread over the semester, so I encourage the students to think of ways to improve.

TOPICS USED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS INCLUDE:

AFGHANISTAN
EAST TIMOR
GALAPAGOS
HAWAII
HONSHU
ICELAND
INDONESIA
IRAN
IRAQ
ISRAEL
KAMCHATKA PENNINSULA
MALAWAI
MOROCCO
PACIFIC NORTHWEST
RWANDA
SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND
SOUTHERN PATAGONIA (Straits of Magellan area)
TURKEY

Presentation Evaluation

Name of Presenter: _____

	Perfect ;^)	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Needs Work
Eye Contact & Composure											
Clarity of Expression											
Diction, Volume:											
Use of Figures & Explanations											
Timing (length)											
Understanding of Material											
Response to Questions											
Organization of Talk											
Enthusiasm for Topic											
Overall Presentation											

Total: (Add them up, 100=perfect) _____

Comments, suggestion for improvement:

Signed: _____