

GEOLOGY 229  
Geographic Information Systems in the Geosciences

Geologic Road Trip Project

**Purpose:** For this project you will use the skills you have acquired thus far, in order to create a geologic map of the state or region of your choosing. This project is designed to help you gain experience creating large scale layouts, understanding the essential elements of a geologic map, and lastly, presenting your findings in a professional atmosphere.

**Project Details:**

A Geology Alumni has generously donated money to fund a geologic road trip to the state or country of your choice. You are tasked with creating a map of the trip to highlight where you would take the department and what features you would see during that trip. The maps will be presented at a "Map Blast" poster session, where the class will decide upon which trip is the one that the department will embark upon.

You will be graded on the final map layout you print and your presentation. Remember clarity and excitement is key. In the presentation, you will be graded on the discussion of your map data acquisition processes, as well as your geologic discussion. You are reminded that this will be a formal map session, so appropriate professional attire is required

**How to get started:**

Find, download, and display data for the state of your choice. No two students may pick the same state, and Pennsylvania is off limits. The final map will be 35.5" x 47.5" (orientation is up to you) and include all of the pertinent features found on a paper map (i.e., Scale, legend, etc.). When the map is ready to be printed, you will export the map as a PDF file at 300dpi resolution.

**Present on the map will be the following:**

Geology	Major Cities	Major Roadways
Major Airports	Railroads	Location of Oldest and Youngest Rock

In addition, you will create a list of the top ten(10) geologic features that you will visit during your time on this trip. These ten features can include volcanoes, faults, historic earthquakes, caves, fossil localities, mineral collection localities, geologic museums, or anything else of geologic importance

These ten sites must be ranked based upon their importance to your trip.

**Review and Final Display Presentation:**

You will be given an opportunity to print your rough drafts and have them reviewed. You will be critiquing other students maps, and getting an opportunity to enhance your map.

The final map will then be printed well in advance of the final display session. Your map presentation will include a well rehearsed synopsis the trip you are proposing to take.

**Project Timeline:**

Rough Draft Uploaded to Moodle:

Peer Review Session:

Final Draft Uploaded to Moodle:

Final Presentation:

**Grading Rubric:**

These will be developed to include:

Presentation

Map

Critical thinking skills of the geology top ten list

Critical thinking of the cartography to make the map work