**Rubric for GEOL 497 Projects**

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| Criteria | D = Below Average | C = Satisfactory | B = Above Average | A = Excellent |
| Data Collection, Analysis, and Write-Up | Did the absolute minimum amount of work on data collection, analysis, and write-up | Data collection, analysis, and write-up were largely complete and satisfactory | Data collection, analysis, and write-up were complete and above average in terms of scope, methodology, and direction | Data collection, analysis, and write-up were complete and substantially beyond expectations in scope, methodology, and direction |
| Work Progress | Frequently required reminders for updates; work demonstrated very slow progress | Work demonstrated ample progress over time to support conclusions, with minimal innovation | Work demonstrated ample progress over time with innovative elements | Work demonstrated appropriate progress over time, with benchmarks met in a consistently timely manner |
| Level of Inquiry |  | Largely a "confirmation" inquiry exercise (all aspects of research were supplied up front) | Substantially a "structured" level of inquiry (questions and methods supplied) or "guided" level of inquiry (questions supplied, but methods and solutions supported by student decisions) | Project demonstrated a "guided" or "open" level of inquiry (at most, only questions supplied to student); project has potential for external publication or dissemination. |
| Level of Completeness | Project lacked elements that would have substantially enhanced the contribution of the work, had they been included and pursued; little opportunity for continued work on this project. | Project was complete on major elements, but the contribution of the work would have been enhanced by additional minor elements; limited opportunities for continued work along the lines of this project. | Project was solid and complete in all respects, with ample opportunities for continued work. | Project was beyond complete and substantive in all respects, contained innovative or unique elements, with a full expectation of continued work on the topic. |