

GLG 102: Historical Geology Devil's Lake Geologic Time Hiking Tour

Overview: There are two parts to this group project assignment. *Part 1* involves groups of students researching a particular time period in the geologic record and writing a 600 – 1,200 word summary of their findings. *Part 2* involves creating a visual display of their findings in google drawings.

Instructions: **BEFORE your group starts Part I: Meet your group; Determine roles and a timeline.**

1. Plan a meeting time outside of class with the other members of your group. During that meeting you should:
2. Decide roles: At the minimum, choose which group member researches which parts of the project.
3. Determine a timeline for your project. Set a date for the following internal group activities (due dates for your group work, not for class assignments per se): finishing your research on the assigned time frame, editing first draft, final formatting and proof reading.
4. **Everyone in the group ~~should~~ needs to be involved in reviewing and helping to improve each other's work to ensure the highest quality final product.**

Part I: Summary of Earth History Time Period **DUE Wednesday Mar. 7th, 11:59pm**

Each group will be assigned one time period from the following list to study:

- Hadean - Archean
- Proterozoic
- Paleozoic
- Triassic - Jurassic
- Cretaceous
- Paleogene
- Neogene
- Quaternary

Your group will research your assigned time period using resources such as those listed below. Then, each group will write a 600 - 1,200 word summary of its findings and post this to dropbox on D2L.

Summaries must be posted by 11:59 pm of the due date. Late summaries will be worth ½ credit for up to one week, and then after one week they will not be worth anything.

Part II: Google Drawing illustrative summary **DUE Wednesday, April 23rd, 11:59pm**

Working as a team, create a google drawings graphic that describes/illustrates key features of the time period.

- **Effective Title-** **Make sure to include an effective title for your graphic.** Effective titles are brief, descriptive, interesting, and designed to capture the audience's attention. Do not leave your title as simply the name of your time period.
- **Interesting Figures-** You must include **at least one map** (one small-scale and one large-scale) and **numerous images** representative of the time period. Interesting figures will greatly enhance the visual impact of your google drawing. **Remember that a picture can be worth a thousand words.** Embedded videos are also a possibility, if appropriate. All figures must have a reference and caption, which is a brief description of the figure. Figures should also be numbered. See the section Reference List and Reference Style below for specific information on reference format.
- **General Overview-** List important facts and statistics about your time period. Include an updated version of your summary from Part I.
- **Reference List and Reference Style-** You must include a number of well-chosen references as sources of your information. All figures and photos must have a reference and a caption, which is a brief summary of the information in the figure or photo. For all references in the text and figure captions, use sequential numbers, which refer to the detailed references given in a separate google drawing titled "References". Include a link to your references in your main google drawing. References to books and journal articles should include the author(s), year, title of book or article, title of journal, and pages. References to Web sites must include the URL (address of the Web site), title, and sponsor of the Web site. Write in your own words; plagiarism (representing someone else's words or ideas as your own) will be penalized severely.

Resources

You must include the sources of your information, e.g., high quality Web site, textbook, or reference book. Make sure to use reputable sources such as those given below.

- Wicander and Monroe: *Historical Geology* (any edition): Cengage Learning
- Stanley and Luczaj: *Earth System History* (any edition): Freeman
- [University of California Museum of Paleontology](#) This Web site has outstanding photos and summaries of geologic time periods.
- The [Wikipedia Entry](#) for each Time Period - For example, [Cenozoic](#). Do not use Wikipedia as your only source of information, but it will help you get started.

Instructor's Role: I will be creating the main map with links to individual group google drawings. I will also organize the drawings into a google site posting that is accessible to the public.

Evaluation: In general, all members of the group will receive identical scores for Part I; and Part II unless a group member does not contribute their "fair share". The following rubric is subject to minor modifications, however it should serve as guide.

Part I:

____/5 - **Summary** 1st Draft (Part I).

____/1 - 600 – 1,200 words

____/2 - limited grammar and spelling mistakes

____/2 – content is meaningful and accurate

Part II:

____/1 - **Title:** Eye-catching and informative titles are specific and should characterize the main theme of your time period summary

____/5 - **Final summary** (similar point scheme as with Part I)

____/3 - **Figures** (images, maps, videos, etc.) are illustrative to the main summary, have citations and are properly referenced.

____/3 - **References:** At least 5 references are properly identified

____/3 - Attendance at “Earth History” day at Devil’s Lake park to help introduce the walking tour to the general public. (Date is tentatively set for **Saturday May 4th**)

____/20 – **Total Points**

Instructor Notes:

The activity map can be adapted to any location you would like. You should choose a spot near your campus, so you can take the students to do the hike and also invite others in your area to try it out.

I hosted the web page on Google Sites, if it is still available you can find the example here:

<https://sites.google.com/site/devilslakegeologictimescale/home>

The images and hyperlinked buttons were produced in Google Drawings, I found the following web page very helpful:

<https://www.controltachieve.com/2016/05/googlink-google-drawings-thinglink.html>

I created the maps in illustrator, and I used the 'split' command in ESRI ArcMAP to develop the trail to an accurate scale, but there are likely many clever ways to do this.

Consider Standardizing the page design to make the final project more aesthetically pleasing, however I think that would limit student creativity