

# Physical Geography

## Lab Activity #20

### Focusing on geographic methods

*COR Objective 9, SLO 4*

#### 20.1. Introduction:

We've covered a variety of geographic methods and topics over the semester. Now it's time for you to select one aspect of the geosciences and directly related fields to research further and then report your findings to the class.

#### 20.2. List of topics:

Geodesy	Soil Science
Global Positioning System (GPS) & satellite navigation	Hydrology
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Atmospheric Science
Photogrammetry	Oceanography
Remote Sensing	Archaeology
Cartography	Paleontology
Seismology	Forestry
Geophysics	Biogeography
Physical Geology	Wilderness guiding
Historical Geology	Crime analysis
Mineralogy	Wildfire mapping
Engineering geology	Emergency preparedness planning
Geochemistry	Urban & rural planning
Volcanology	
Geomorphology	

#### 20.3. The Process

Once you have a topic you will need to begin researching. A simple *Google* search can provide a variety of pages that will help to explain what your subject is all about. Be sure to consult a variety of sources to ensure your report is well informed.

When you feel you have gathered enough information you will *type* a 2-3 page report on your findings. Your report should answer the following questions:

- Define your topic. What is its main area of focus? Why is its existence necessary? How does it benefit humanity? How does it relate to topics discussed in Geography 101?
- Can someone make a living in this field? If so, what education, training, and experience are needed?
- What special technology or equipment does this field use?
- Are there any national or international organizations to which people working in the field belong? Where is the next meeting or conference being held?
- Can you find any current job openings in this field? If so, what is the job description and what does it require? Is a salary listed?

You do not need to adhere to a particular style (MLA, Chicago, etc.). Simply make sure you use a standard 12 point font, double space, and have 1" margins. You should also clearly list your sources to avoid any chance of plagiarism. *Papers that are not properly formatted and/or spell/grammar checked will be docked 20%.*

You will be required to present your findings to the class. Check with your instructor for time limits and any required visual aids.

*End of Lab 20*