

Appendix B: Rubric for the Honors Thesis in Geology and Environmental Geosciences

Assessor/Committee: _____

Student: _____

Date: _____

	Element of Thesis	Excelling	Acceptable
Progress Report	Sources and Evidence	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality, credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for their research project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates the reasonable use of credible and/or relevant sources to support ideas that are appropriate for their research project.
	Methodology and Data Collection	<input type="checkbox"/> Develops or employs a robust sampling and/or analytical methodology and uses it to collected relevant, high-quality data.	<input type="checkbox"/> Develops or employs an acceptable sampling and/or analytical methodology and uses it to collected acceptable, relevant data.
	Disciplinary-specific Conventions in Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates appropriate attention to and successful execution of conventions of Geology and the writing task – including organization, content, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices.	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates acceptable attention to and execution of conventions of Geology and the writing task – including organization, content, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices. There may be minor errors and/or omissions, but key elements are included and accurate.
	Oral Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Clearly, concisely and accurately summarizes the motivation, methodology, and preliminary result of their project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptably summarizes the motivation, methodology, and preliminary result of their project. There may be minor errors and/or omissions, but key elements are included and accurate.
Evaluation of progress at end of fall semester. <i>Performed by thesis committee and mentor.</i>		Comments:	

Thesis	Evidence Gathered	<input type="checkbox"/> Skillfully incorporates relevant information from sources developing a comprehensive analysis or synthesis.	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptably incorporates relevant information from sources to develop an appropriate analysis or synthesis.
	Application/Analysis	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses the quantitative analysis of data as the basis for deep and thoughtful judgments, drawing insightful, carefully qualified conclusions.	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses the quantitative analysis of data as the basis for accurate, but basic judgments and conclusions.
	Connections to Discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> Independently synthesizes or draws conclusions by combining examples, facts, or theories to interpret their own novel contribution. Integrates alternate, divergent, or contradictory perspectives or ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/> When prompted, synthesizes or draws conclusions by combining examples, facts, or theories to interpret their own novel contribution. Acknowledges alternate, divergent, or contradictory perspectives.
	Disciplinary-specific Conventions in Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates appropriate attention to and successful execution of conventions of Geology and the writing task – including organization, content, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices.	Demonstrates acceptable attention to and execution of conventions of Geology and the writing task – including organization, content, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices. There may be minor errors and/or omissions, but key elements are included and accurate.
Evaluation of the Thesis <i>Performed by thesis committee and mentor.</i>		Comments:	

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