

**Purpose:** To show you what I expect you for lab writeups. Each of you will turn in a writeup and they will generally be between 2-6 pages (counting Figures). Use a font like *Times*, hand these in on time and be sure the pages are stapled together. Generally labs will be due at the beginning of the next week's lab period, unless otherwise noted. If labs are late they will receive half off for each day late – so the half life of your grade is 1 day.

*The following is the basic outline that I expect to see each time. Even if you work in a group – I would like an independent writeup from each of you.*

Below is the general outline to follow:

**Title:** Have a title that is descriptive and wants me to read it.

**Introduction:** What is the purpose of the lab, a few paragraphs will do the job.

**Background:** Here you will cite any studies that are relevant to the exercise, location maps and previous studies.

**Procedure:** What data and techniques (methods) are you using to accomplish the purpose. Outline the steps used.

**Observations & Results:** Presentation of results in the form of graphs, tables, photos.

**Discussion:** The discussion section is the most important part of any lab. Here you will put the observations and results into a context. What do they mean, what further questions might you have, do you trust the results?

**Conclusion:** Here you cite the important results that are discussed above. Nothing new is presented here.

**References:** We generally follow the Geological Society of America format to cite references. You can find the format and other guidelines to writing at <http://www3.wooster.edu/geology/geois/ismanual.html>.