GRADING SCHEME FOR TERM PAPERS

1. REFERENCES (10%)

THREE OR MORE SHOULD BE ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS (see last page for list). You should start with review papers in non-refereed publications and work back to find key facts, etc. in refereed journals. Refereed journals contain papers that have been read and criticized by experts before acceptance in the journal, and usually are rewritten before publication based on the reviews (referees' comments). You can tell them because they carry the dates of both submission and acceptance for publication, and often have extensive reference lists. They are, however, likely to be more specialized than those in non-refereed publications.

2. FORM and MECHANICAL PRESENTATION (10%)

The paper should be 20-30 pages long including figures, tables, and references. There should be a minimum of 15 pages of text and in no case should the total length of the paper exceed 30 pages. Use double spaced, 12-point type with 1-inch margins on the sides, top, and bottom. Refer to your illustrations in the text and cite their source in the figure caption.

3. LOGIC AND CONTENT (35%)

Think about considering multiple hypotheses, evaluating them as to likelihood of being correct now (when considering historical reviews), about methods of observation, including how the data were collected, possible errors, and how these influence conclusions.

4. ANALYSIS and CONCLUSION (25%)

Include the significance for the future, critical factors that are not known, and suggestions for research reflecting critical needs. "Further research is required" is not an acceptable conclusion without specifics. The synthesis should demonstrate your understanding of the vital factors. This is where you put it all together.

5. ORAL PRESENTATION (20%)

-25 minutes maximum including 5 minutes of questions

Your oral presentation is not just a reading of your paper. The audience needs to get the main points presented in a clear concise fashion. Prepare your viewgraphs to fill no more than 15 minutes anticipating some clarifying questions during your talk and up to 5 minutes of questions after your talk. Use transparencies or programs such as Power Point.

EXAMPLES OF REFERENCE FORMAT

Provide a reference list at the end of the paper, alphabetized by authors' last names. If you are quoting an article from a magazine, journal, or other collection, give the author(s), title of the article, and then the title of the publication (underlined):


If the article is in a volume of collected papers (volume title underlined):

Reference for a book (title underlined):


Anonymous reports from government offices, research lab, private business, etc.:


EXAMPLES OF LIBRARIES ON CAMPUS - there are many and a few are listed below:

- Memorial (MEM)
- Engineering (ENGR, 1st fl, current periodicals; 4th fl, periodicals more than 10 years old)
- Physics (PHYS, 4220 Chamberline)

INDEXES. The librarians can help you locate these. Most index by subject as well as by author (separately). N. B.: "Networks" below are accessible in the Geology Library and most other libraries.

- General Science Index. Now on CD-ROM on Memorial network.
- New York Times Index (COLL and MEM). NY Times has its own staff of science writers and good articles on recent events (e.g., space missions) and issues (e.g., orbiting of nuclear material).

Campus card catalogues (books and journal titles) are now computer-accessible from 1976 or earlier.

Some PUBLICATIONS you might use:

Examples of some REFEREED JOURNALS. (The word "referee" is pronounced like the official at a ballgame and in many ways means the same.)

- Science, ENGR, MEM, (only articles that show bibliographies and submitted and accepted dates; other valuable articles are by staff writers, but these are not refereed)
- Nuclear Technology, ENGR
- Fusion Technology, ENGR
- Space Power, ENGR
- Text Books on Nuclear Power (e.g., Angelo & Buden)

Examples of some NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS. (These can be of crucial importance in getting started and for getting an overview of your subject.)

- Science News, PHYS, MEM,
- Scientific American, most libraries
- Space News, ENGR
- Launch Space, ENGR
- Ad Astra, ENGR
- AEROSPACE, ENGR
- Planetary Reports, ENGR
- Popular Science, MEM, ENGR
- Space Nuclear Conferences
- Project Reports (many may be on microfiche in the ENGR library)

WEB-SITES ARE NOT REFEREED REFERENCES