Research project

The purpose of this research project is to give you the opportunity to explore some aspect of petrologic process in more detail than we have given it in class (if at all!). You can study something related to, but not on, your thesis rocks. You may study a theoretical treatment, a case study of a particular tectonic setting, or a particular problem related to any aspect of petrologic reactions, phase equilibria, geochemical process, or development of fabrics/textures, to name but a few. The sky is the limit! If you work on a case study of a particular large area or geological province, the project should relate to a specific tectonic setting or petrologic process that we want to know more about. Please see us to discuss possible topics.

You will turn in a short statement (1-2 sentences) of your proposed topic and a brief abstract or summary (≤ 250 words) in addition to your final paper. Papers should be double-spaced and generally on the order of about 5-10 pages of text, plus references, figures, tables, etc. We will be grading on the basis of content and writing, not length in particular.

You will also present the results of your topic orally to the class during the scheduled final exam time. Plan your presentation for 15-20 minutes and allow time for questions.

Deadlines:

Project statement (1-2 sentences) Wed., Nov 4
Project abstracts (≤ 250 words) Wed., Dec 9
Project presentations Mon., Dec 21, 4-6 pm
Project reports due Fri., Dec 18