

GEOL 333 Alternate Assignment for all-day field trip to Starved Rock Park area  
10-point penalty for unexcused absence, No penalty for excused absence

**Write a 2 - 3 page summary of the geology of the Starved Rock State Park area, Illinois**

**This assignment is due to Prof. Altaner by 1:30 pm on May 12. Page guidelines refer to double-spaced, 12 pt, Times font text only with one inch margins on all sides. The pages for any figures, references, and title are not included in the page guidelines. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE! Plagiarism will be severely punished. Write the summaries using your own words, not the words of the authors, including Internet authors.**

This assignment will describe the geology of Starved Rock State Park area, which includes Matthiessen State Park and Buffalo Rock State Park. You should be able to get all the information you need from a geology guidebook to the Starved Rock State Park area, the book Time Talks (available from Prof. Altaner upon request), and Internet references given below. **Your summary should include all of the following:**

- **Brief geologic history of the Starved Rock Park area (including Paleozoic history, Ordovician and Pennsylvanian Rocks, La Salle Anticlinorium, and Quaternary history, including formation of the Illinois River valley)**
- **Geologic nature, origin, and significance of the St. Peter Sandstone, the main rock exposed at all 3 state parks; include this information with the Ordovician rock description of the geologic history**

References on the Geology of the Starved Rock Park area, Illinois

Time Talks: the Geology of Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks (2005) Greenberg, S.E., Illinois St. Geological Survey. (available from Prof. Altaner upon request)

Geologic Field Trip to the Starved Rock State Park Area, LaSalle County, Illinois (2013)  
Altaner, S.P., Butler, S, The Clay Minerals Society  
[http://www.clays.org/annual%20meeting/50th\\_annual\\_meeting\\_website/program.html](http://www.clays.org/annual%20meeting/50th_annual_meeting_website/program.html)  
(Click on the link 'Download the Starved Rock Area Field Trip Guide')

Additional Web sites with excellent photographs (and brief geologic descriptions)  
<http://classes.geology.uiuc.edu/09FallClass/geo110/VirtTourStarvedRock/index.htm>  
<http://ebeltz.net/fieldtrips/lasalle.html>  
<http://www2.ivcc.edu/phillips/traci/index.html>  
<http://www2.wheaton.edu/ACG/ASA%20Geology%20Field%20Trip.pdf>  
(Use information in above reference from Stop #5 + Stop #6 only)

AND

- 2) **Write a summary of TWO other virtual field trips available on the Internet. Each summary should be ~one-half to one page in length. You MUST include the Web site address of each virtual field trip.**

Part (2) of the assignment will describe the geology of **TWO** areas in the world (virtual field trips). Below is a list of several Web sites with many virtual field trips from which you can choose. **For any virtual field trip you choose, make sure that there is considerable information associated with your selected site, i.e., large number of photos and lots of text describing the area.**

### Web Sites - Virtual Field Trips

Virtual Field Trips of National Parks (U.S. Geological Survey)

<<http://3dparks.wr.usgs.gov/>>

Take a virtual or 3D tour of your favorite National Park and learn about its Geology and Natural History.

Geology Virtual Field Trips (from Prof. John Butler, Univ. of Houston)

<<http://www.uh.edu/~jbutler/anon/gpvirtual.html>>

<<http://www.uh.edu/~jbutler/anon/quick.html>>

These 2 sites contain dozens of links to Virtual Field Trips on the Internet.

Virtual Excursions (from Stromboli online)

<<http://www.swisseduc.ch/stromboli/virtual-excursions/index-en.html>>

Visit one of many active volcanoes from around the world.

Virtual Field Trips (from Cengage Learning Company)

<<http://college.cengage.com:80/geology/resources/geologylink/fieldtrips.html>>

Loads of virtual geology field trips to localities throughout the world.

Geological Field Trips (from Richard Robinson, Santa Monica College)

<[http://homepage.smc.edu/robinson\\_richard/field-trips/index.html](http://homepage.smc.edu/robinson_richard/field-trips/index.html)>

Zillions of virtual geology field trips organized by theme (beaches, deserts, earthquakes, and many more) as well as to localities throughout the world.