

GEOS 3010 Minerals and Rocks
Spring 2009
Exam Corrections

Purpose:

In most courses exams serve the purpose of summative assessment – evaluating what students know at the end of a unit. There is usually no opportunity for students to review answers to see what they have learned and to revise answers that are incorrect. However, in this course we will be using exams as formative assessment – opportunities for students to receive feedback from your instructor as to what material you understand, and where you still need to do some work. Formative assessment can lead to better learning as you (the student) have a chance to review your work and improve on your original answers.

The technique we will use in this class is called exam corrections. Here you will receive feedback from your instructor as to whether your answers to exam questions are correct (or partially correct), then you can rewrite your responses to improve them. You will earn points toward your exam grade for the correctly rewritten answers.

Procedure:

1. Review the exam for instructor feedback. On each question in the multiple choice/matching/fill-in section I have indicated whether your response is correct (check) or incorrect (“X”). On each question in the short answer and/or calculation sections, you will see a point value next to the question. I have also made comments on your response, indicating which parts are correct and which need more work.
2. Turn in a TYPED response for all questions on which you did not receive the full point value.
 - a. For multiple choice/matching/fill-in questions, indicate the correct response AND explain why this is the correct response.

Example: 1. False, because a continental margin is the transition between continental and oceanic crust, but a plate boundary could be entirely located in a continent, in an ocean, or along a continental margin.
 - b. For the short answer questions, simply rewrite your answer in complete sentences. If a question has multiple parts (a, b, c, etc.) you only need to revise your response to the part that was incorrect.
 - c. For the calculation questions, redo the calculations, showing your work. If a calculation has multiple parts (a, b, c, etc.) you only need to revise your response to the part that was incorrect.
3. You will earn half of the available points for a corrected response. In other words, if the question is worth 2 points, and you received a 0, a corrected response will earn you back 1 point toward your total exam grade (and if you had 1 out of 2, a corrected response will raise your score to 1.5 out of 2). Depending on your original exam grade, this could raise your score by a letter grade or two.
4. Remember to turn in your original exam along with the corrections! Please come and see me if you need further clarification, or if any of the feedback comments are unclear.

Figure for Exam 1, question 26

