Glacial Geomorphology (Spring 2025) Term Paper Rubric

Key Points:

- Title: Glacial Geomorphology of the [region] and its implications
- Your region must be pre-approved by the Instructor (more on that, later)
- Each student must have a different region (chosen on a first-come-first-serve basis). The region may be no smaller than 10x10 km² and no larger than 200x200 km².
- You must develop a ten-minute oral presentation on your region and present it in class on April 29 or May 1.
- Paper is due May 16, 11:59 PM.
- Post as a PDF to the Assignment section of Courseworks.
- Eight-to-twelve page single-spaced with minimum of five figures and ten references.
- Late reports will not be accepted.
- 100 Points Total:

Objective: For you to make an in-depth study of a region with present-day or Ice Age glacial geomorphological features and interpret your findings in a way that connects with ecological, climatological and other broad issues. Your study needs to include both your own exploration on the region using Google Maps (or equivalent), in which you identify and describe glacial geomorphological features, and a literature review in which you highlight interesting discoveries that have been made.

1. Introduction (20 Points)

- Description of your region (10 Points):
 - Clear and concise description of the region, including where it is and the types of glacial geomorphological features that are present, and why these features are important to broader research questions issues (5 points).
 - Must include a continental scale map showing the location of the region, and a map of the region, itself. (3 points).
- Motivation (10 Points):
 - Clear articulation of what makes the region important from a scientific viewpoint (4 points).
 - Connection to ecological, climatological and/or other broader issues (3 points).

2. Region Interpretation Section (20 Points)

- Interpretive maps and diagrams (15 Points):
 - Maps overlain with hand-annotated information that identifies particular glacial geomorphological features (e.g. moraines, cirques, eskers, glacial flow directions, etc.)

- Must include at least set of co-registered satellite and terrain maps
- o Must contain at least one interpretive or schematic diagram
- Interpretation section (5 Points):
 - How the glacial geomorphological features give an overall sense of the role of glaciers in shaping the region.

4. Literature Review Section (20 Points)

- Survey of major findings (10 Points):
 - The most important issues that have been the subject of research, which have been resolved and which are still outstanding
- An in-depth discussion of one interesting result (10 Points).
 - Must connect with something that you've identified in your interpretation

6. Discussion and Conclusion (20 Points)

- Summary (5 Points):
 - Concise restatement of key results and their significance.
- Broader Implications (10 Points)
 - Relevance of results to ecological, climatological and other broad issues
- Future Work (5 Points):
 - Suggestions for future research in the area.

7. Figure(s) (10 Points)

- Correctness and Appropriateness of Figures (5 Points):
- Format of figures (5 points)
 - Figure numbered
 - Axes of figure labeled with variable and units
 - Figure caption below figure that explains elements (e.g. symbols) in figure
 - Figure cited in text

8. Reference/s (10 Points)

• Use of Required Reference (5 Points):

- At least ten properly cited references relevant to the topic.
- Use the citation style that you prefer (e.g., MLA, APA), but be consistent.

• Formatting of Reference (5 Points):

• Cite reference at appropriate point in text using style you prefer (but be consistent)

Total: 100 Points