ME551/GEOS551 Introduction to Industrial Minerals
Spring 2014

Midterm

Due March 30, 2014 by e-mail  ginger@nmbg.nmt.edu

1. Why are industrial minerals different from metals and energy minerals?

2. Analyze a recent mine fatality on the MSHA web site. Explain what caused the fatality and how the mining industry can prevent similar accidents.

3. Why do we classify mineral deposits?

4. Describe how the physical or chemical characteristics of an industrial mineral allow for that commodity to be used by society. For example; diamond is used in drill bits because of its hardness.

5. Why is sustainable development so important for future mining operations?

6. How has the mining industry changed with time?

7. What industrial minerals did you use today and in what products?

8. What are the responsibilities of a geologist during the stages of mining?

9. How do we use GEMs in exploration for industrial mineral deposits?

10. What is gilsonite? Where is gilsonite found and what is it used for?

Be sure to cite your references and sources. You may work together on this midterm but each student is responsible for answering these questions in their own words.