

## Recording Geological Field Observations

Each **location number** should be unique; written in both the field book and on the field slip, where it should be indicated with a dot (.). Rock samples should be recorded in the field book and **sample numbers** should be underlined in the field book. Rocks should be numbered at the time of collection. To permanently label rock specimens: use white nail polish on a small surface of rock; when dry, use India ink and label it; when dry, cover with clear nail polish.

**Field slips** and maps should have, at least, the following information:

1. North arrow
2. General location map
3. Title
4. All lettering should *face* in the same direction
5. Location numbers
6. Recognizable, geomorphic *truth* points
7. Date and artists name
8. Bar scale

All **lines** on maps should be **SOLID** if the feature was observed, and **DASHED** if the feature was inferred.


**Ink color** for field slips:

- Black: data (location numbers, lithologic type, orientation data)
- Red: faults
- Blue: lithologic contacts
- Green: area of exposed rock

**Field note books** should have, at least, the following information on each page:

1. Date
2. Place
3. Field slip
4. Tabulated data, for example:
  - on one page:  $S_0, S_1, S_2, F_1, F_2, bcl$ , joints, faults, miscellaneous
  - other page: rock color, weathering color, grain size, formation, thickness, miscellaneous, rock type, lithological unit.

Be quantitative:

1. **Measure** and record all orientations of all fabrics  
(i.e. bedding, cleavage, faults, axial planes, folds, cross bedding...)
2. If sedimentary structures exist, **record** younging directions and transport directions.
3. Figures in the field book should include:
  - a) the statement: looking (*bearing*)
  - b) a bar scale: 2 meters

Further Notes:

1. Write clearly and concisely – conserve space.
2. Ink in the field notes at the end of each day – for permanence, reassurance and organizational reasons.
3. All photographs should be recorded under the appropriate location number and given a unique photograph number – photographs should be labeled as soon as possible;
4. Be quantitative.
5. You will develop your own technique, and modify this one in due time.