Cive 353 – Geotechnical Engineering 1

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- This is a group project and thus a professional and complete report is expected for each lab session
- All lab reports must be submitted to achieve course credit

Due Dates

- One week approx. for Direct Shear, Permeability, and Compaction
- Two weeks for Triaxial
- Approx. one month for Consolidation

CHECK the Schedule posted in LAB…

Each Lab MUST Have

- Title Page
- Letter of Submittal
- Table of Contents
- Introduction
- A reference to the procedure
- Discussion (with answers to lab questions)
- Clear, concise and labeled figures
- Clear, complete and neat sample calculations
- Raw Data
- Conclusions
- References

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Letter of Submittal
  - Signed by all group members
  - Consistent with engineering standards
    - Similar to a work place reports
- Table of Contents
  - Should contain lists of figures, tables and appendices

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Introduction
  - Overview of topic
  - Applicability of the laboratory to geotechnical problems
  - Summary of the topic to be investigated
  - Should NOT contain:
    - Data
    - Conclusions
  - Information must be referenced

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Discussion
  - Should contain answers to lab questions
    - Questions should NOT be answered in list format
    - Questions should be answered in paragraph form
    - *Yes* and *No* answers are NOT acceptable
    - Numerical questions should be summarized with a quick overview of how the calculations were done and either a table of values or a reference to a spreadsheet included in the lab report

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Sample Calculations
  - Hand written calculations are acceptable
  - A sample calculation is required for every different type of calculation performed

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Conclusions
  - Should summarize the results presented in the Discussion section
  - No new information can be presented
  - Must be presented in paragraph form but can contain summary tables

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Explaining Error
  - *Experimental Error* is not a good enough explanation
    - Need to explain the error and why it occurred
    - Outline specific errors in the performance of the lab
    - Use other resources (textbooks, etc...) to determine reasons why your data is inconsistent with theoretical data
  - You cannot quote the TA as a reference

Instructions for Preparing Laboratory Reports

- Extra Information
  - Reports can be stapled together – binding is not necessary
  - Reference all information – Plagiarism is a serious offence
  - Will be returned after all labs are handed in.