

OPEN EBOOK COMPILING RESULTS FROM PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY AT IGC-USP

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ABSTRACT: Mineral exploration plays a key role in the economy of Brazil, representing almost 5% of its GDP and is associated with over two million direct and indirect employment, however, its importance is still not well known for most of the society, especially regarding the use of its products on almost everything in our daily routine. The mineral exploration also has a bad reputation with the public opinion, especially after the Mariana and Brumadinho accidents. It is not uncommon to recognize this unawareness on undergraduate students, in this context, the “Economic Geology” (GSA0418) subject of the Bsc Geology at University of São Paulo intends to lecture students on relevant aspects of the mining industry and to link it with the development of the economy, urbanization and the social welfare, while analysing global and domestic market of minerals commodities. The classes count with different theoretical and practical activities, among these practical activities, one proposed the students to elaborate summaries based on a template including historical, technical and geological data, economic notes and future predictions from over 40 commodities, the summaries include images, tables and charts. The results were fruitful, overall, the summaries were high-quality and the feedback was positive, evidencing the commitment of the students, motivating the proposition to elaborate an open ebook with the summaries, to be published on the Open Books website, part of the Integrated Library System of University of São Paulo (SIBiUSP). At this moment, under the supervision of the professor responsible for the subject, graduate and undergraduate students are revising, editing and complementing the material, this stage also contributes as a complementary formation to the students involved. The e-book aims to provide to the society an updated and easy to assimilate material in portuguese regarding the most produced commodities in the world. Also aims to motivate the undergraduate students since they will be credited as authors in the summaries they elaborated. Finally, the publication of the ebook is part of many initiatives from the teaching staff and student body of the Institute of Geosciences at University of São Paulo to approximate the academia, the society and the industry.

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