

## SOIL SCIENCE

Chairman: JAMES M. SMITH, Wright University

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### ABSTRACT

**Soils Portion of Geology Course.** JAMES MITCHELL SMITH, Wright University, Dayton, Ohio.—Soils information is introduced as a single laboratory session and soil observations are made on field trips as part of total trip.

Soils information, often presented in beginning geology classes as part of the weathering process, or as general sedimentary material, is presented at Wright University as a subject within the content of the course. An entire laboratory period of two hours is devoted to soils which follows other subjects in this sequence:

1. Contour maps
2. Air photos
3. Soils

Often soils study follows lecture on glacial geology.

Scott County, Indiana, soil survey report is used as text material. Emphasis is on well drained Cincinnati soils as compared to poorly drained Avonburg and similar examples of drainage groups, slope and erosion. Catena differences are illustrated with glacial and nonglacial soils with attention to map sheets 4, 5, and 6.

Field trips make possible field study of soils during trips to sites of geological interest.

Good student response in past leads this writer to believe that soils will be retained as portion of total course, and that the plan will be discussed in other Ohio Universities.