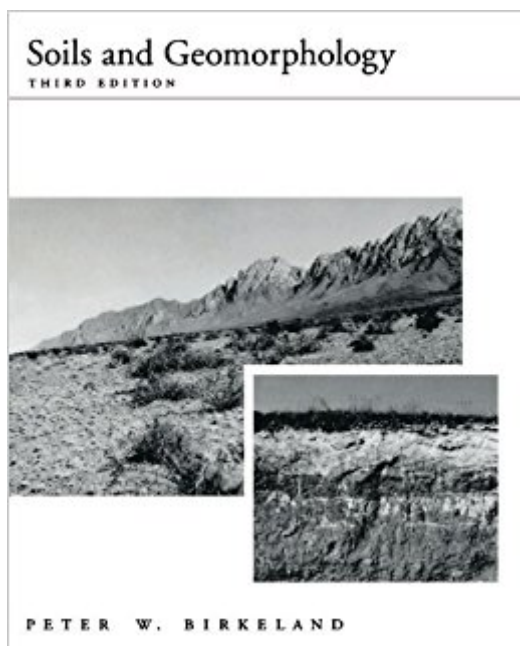


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Soils And Geomorphology



Synopsis

Soils and Geomorphology, now in its third edition, remains popular among soil scientists, geomorphologists, geologists, geographers, and archaeologists. While retaining the useful "factors of soil formation format," it has been extensively revised, incorporating a considerable amount of new research and offering a greater number of topics and examples -- particularly in the chapters "Weathering and Soil Development with Time" and "Topography: Soil Relations with Time in Different Climatic Settings." Greater emphasis is placed on the role of dust in pedogenesis, and new data are included on tropical soil development, global soil-loess relations, neotectonics, and reduction processes. The text discusses field applications such as the use of soils in recognizing climate change, estimating the age of geological deposits, and dealing with environmental problems such as acid rain. New "how-to" appendices on soil descriptions and calculating the profile development index are also included. Soils and Geomorphology is an ideal text for advanced undergraduate and graduate students in courses on pedology, soil science, Quaternary geology, archeology, and sedimentary petrology.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Greatly revised, better than ever! Much new material. Chapter on Weather and Soil Development with Time was especially helpful. Perhaps the most valuable book on my bookshelf."--Hugh Mills, Tennessee Tech University
"This third edition greatly expands and updates the second (1984) edition. It is written for soil scientists, geomorphologists, geologists, geographers, and archeologists but would be an excellent text for advanced undergraduate and graduate students in pedology, soil

science, Quaternary geology, and sedimentary geology. This book retains, but also expands and updates, the first five chapters from the previous edition that cover soil morphology, classification, weathering, weathering products and soil-forming processes. Chapter six, factors of soil formation, sets the theme for the remaining four chapters, which addresses the relationship among soils and their formation with parent material, time, topography and climate. Emphasis is on the study of soils in their natural environment; two new appendixes on how to describe soil profiles, and calculate the profile development index are included." --California Geology, May 2000

Peter Birkeland is at University of Colorado, Boulder.

Each chapter goes above and beyond any undergraduate lesson plan, which makes it a great book for undergrad professors to use because it gives curious students an option to quench their thirst for the heavily-quantitative side of the lesson that the professor skips over. The trouble arises when you're tasked with skimming through the chapters for the basics and you get sidetracked, and maybe discouraged, by the material's underlying complexity, but on the bright side the wording is by no means ambiguous. Out of all the Soils textbooks that my school has in the GS department, I firmly believe this is the most comprehensive.

Good!

The process is pedogenesis and this book will tell you what you want to know. I'm using this book in a class I am taking and I would recommend it to anyone who is seriously thinking about wanting to understand soils in a more geomorphologic and geologic perspective. Not a light read, but definitely not a traditional textbook either. The extensive references section will also help to lead you in other directions you may wish to take in order to find more on specific studies and research papers.

I'm using this for my grad research in geology. It's a great text for someone who has some general geologic background, but who wants to know more about soils. It focuses on general soil chemistry and soil forming factors, among other topics. Birkeland is a great writer, he explains things really clearly.

I read this book for one of my graduate courses. Totally this is a good book for people who know about soil science, but the weakness of this book is using too much terms which are not explained

in this book. So, if you do not have a very good back ground in geology, it will be difficult for you to understand some parts of this book and you need a geology dictionary to read this book.

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