Geotechnical Engineer Examination Reference List

The following is a list of recommended references for the Geotechnical Engineer examination. References included in this list should be considered suggested material only. These references should be considered suggested material only.

1. **An Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering, 2nd Edition**; Robert D. Holtz et al. (2010)
2. **Annual book of ASTM Standards, Section 4** – Construction, Volume 04.08 and 0.09: Soil and Rock (I) (Current edition)
3. **California Building Code, Volume II** (2022)
4. **California Building Code, Volume II** (2025); (To be Effective for 2027 Exam)
5. **Designing with Geosynthetics, 6th Edition**; Robert M. Koerner (2012)
6. **Seepage Analysis and Control for Dams**; Engineer Manual No. 1110-2-1901 http://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Publications/EngineerManuals/EM_1110-2-1901.pdf
7. **Foundation Analysis and Design, 5th Edition**; Joseph E. Bowles (1995)
8. **Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures** (ASCE/SEI 7-16)
9. **Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures** (ASCE/SEI 7-22); (To be Effective for 2027 Exam)
10. **Foundation Design Principles and Practices, 3rd Edition**; Donald P. Coduto et al. (2015)
11. **Foundation Engineering Handbook, 2nd Edition**; Hsai-Yang Fang (Editor); Van Nostrand Reinhold (1991)
12. **Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, 2nd Edition**; Steven L. Kramer and Jonathan P. Stewart (2025)
13. **Geotechnical Engineering Principles and Practices, 2nd Edition**; Donald P. Coduto et al. (2010)
14. **Guidelines for Evaluating and Mitigating Seismic Hazards in California**; California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Publication 117A (2008) https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/documents/publications/special-publications/SP_117a.pdf
15. **Principles of Foundation Engineering, 10th Edition**; Braja M. Das (2023)
16. **Professional Engineers' Act and Board Rules**; Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (2025) https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/pe_act.pdf
17. **Soil Liquefaction During Earthquakes**; I.M. Idriss and R.W. Boulanger, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (2008)
18. **Recommended Procedures for Implementation of DMG Special Publication 117: Guidelines for Analyzing and Mitigating Liquefaction Hazards in California**; Southern California Earthquake Center; USC (March 1999)
19. **Seepage, Drainage, and Flow Nets, 3rd Edition**; Harry R. Cedergren; John Wiley and Sons (1989)
20. **Civil Engineering Reference Manual for the PE Exam, 16th Edition**; Michael R. Lindeburg; Professional Publications (2018)
21. **Soil Mechanics, DM 7.1**; Unified Facilities Criteria, UFC 3-220-10 (2022) https://www.wbdg.org/FFC/DOD/UFC/ufc_3_220_10_2022_c1.pdf
22. **Foundations and Earth Structures, DM 7.2**; Unified Facilities Criteria, UFC 3-220-20 (2025) https://www.wbdg.org/FFC/DOD/UFC/ufc_3_220_20_2025.pdf
23. **Soil Dynamics and Special Design Aspects, MIL-HDBK-1007/3 (Superseding NAVFAC DM 7.3)**; Department of Defense (1997) https://vulcanhammer.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/mh10073.pdf

24. **Soil Mechanics in Engineering Practice, 3rd Edition**; Karl Terzaghi, Ralph B. Peck and Gholamreza Mesri (1996)
25. **California Geological Survey-Note 48** (November 2025) https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/Documents/Publications/CGS-Notes/CGS-Note-48-a11y.pdf
26. **Evaluation of Settlements in Sands due to Earthquake Shaking**; K. Tokimatsu and H. B. Seed; ASCE Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, Vol. 113, No. 8, (August 1987)
27. **Caltrans Standard Specifications**, (2025 Edition) https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/2025-standard-plans-locked.pdf
28. **Greenbook: Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction** (2024)
29. **Caltrans Corrosion Guidelines** (2025) https://dot.ca.gov/programs/engineering-services/corrosion-guidelines
30. **Caltrans Highway Design Manual** https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/manual-highway-design-manual-hdm