

## **Group Project Requirements (Written and Oral)**

Environmental Biology 206, 07 April 2004, Bonine/Price/Cable

Written Proposal due **Monday 26 April 2004 in lecture.**

Oral Presentations will be via PowerPoint on PC computer in the lecture room on one of the following 3 days: **28 or 30 April, or 03 May 2004.**

Written Proposal/Report – please read these instructions carefully. Failure to follow them will result in a lowering of your grade.

This short document (at least 5 pages) should include:

- A clear, informative title that describes the goal of your project.
- Begin your written project with an overview summary of your proposed changes and why they are important and feasible. This 1-2 paragraph summary should not include citations. You may consider bulleting the salient points you are trying to make.
- Next, you should provide background on the issue including the environmental impacts, social and economic costs, ramifications of not making changes, and the feasibility of making changes. Your discussion should include both the local scale as well as larger continental- and global-scale considerations. This is a good place to cite previous research data and the success that other groups or institutions have had when making the changes that you are proposing.
- Tables and graphs of costs, benefits, effects on the environment, etc. are a useful addition here and are also very useful in the oral presentation.
- What changes do you propose and how do you propose to enact them?
- Provide *at least* five citations from the primary literature (you can supplement with other reference materials as well) to support your research goals. Use the parenthetical citation format of *Conservation Biology* which you can find by looking up this journal online (the citation format in your syllabus is very similar as well). At the end of your written report should be a list of literature cited.

In addition to the above proposal you should also write up the following:

- Who did you decide to approach with your proposal and why? Which decision maker(s) did you give your final proposal to? What was their response? Were they receptive? Unreceptive? If they were unreceptive, what might you have done differently in the future to change this response. If they were receptive, what did you do right? Please include contact information for the decision makers you approached.
- Please submit your double-spaced typed report with your TA's name, and the name of your group members. Spelling, grammar and argument structure will be taken into account when determining final grades. For assistance please contact your TA or the Modern Language Association Style Manual. Later, we will also ask you to rate your group members' contribution to the earlier outline, and project overall. These ratings will be kept confidential, and will contribute to the determination of your final grade on this project. Step up and do your part, not only for your group, but for our planet as well. Remember, the wheels of change only move as fast as you push them.

Hopefully your project will end up as a success story on one of the many web pages that we steered you toward earlier this semester (e.g., <http://www.nwf.org/campusecology/index.cfm>).

## Oral Proposal/Report

This 8 minute presentation will allow you to share with your classmates the project you pursued this semester. The fact that you need to present using PowerPoint means that you could also have a PowerPoint presentation ready earlier to present to the decision makers that you have identified that could make your proposed changes happen. For the in-class oral presentation, you will pretend that your classmates are the audience that has the power to enact your proposal.

Your PowerPoint slides should be used to expand on and inform the material you are presenting orally; don't just read your slides, teach your slides. Each member of your group does not need to speak, but you all can if you wish; just remember to practice your presentation so you know what to say and so you know how long it will take you. Practice with an audience (fellow group members and other folks not familiar with your project). We suggest that you test your presentation on the PC in the lecture room (Haury 216) BEFORE the day of your presentation. We will time your presentation to make sure that you are not cutting into the time allotted another group.

Your presentation should include the same components as the oral presentation, except for the initial summary. Please also tell the class about the outcome of your proposal to relevant decision makers.

Our grading will be based on the effectiveness of your proposal (Did you convince us that this was an issue worth worrying about? Did you convince us that we should implement your proposed changes? Did you convince us that your proposed changes would work?), knowledge of the subject you are discussing, and the audiovisual contribution from your powerpoint file. We will also consider whether the information was presented in a logical format. In addition, we will evaluate your responses to questions from classmates.

Please get your powerpoint presentation to KEB ([kebonine@email.arizona.edu](mailto:kebonine@email.arizona.edu)) before **5pm on the day BEFORE** your presentation (10% off at least for late submission of files). You (or at least a member of your group) will also need to be present in lecture at **8:45 on the day of** your presentation so we can make sure that you know how to navigate through your slides using the computer.

We look forward to great presentations about excellent projects. Thanks for your hard work.