

PROJECT PRESENTATION GUIDELINES (20% of final grade; GROUP + INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT):

Science is meaningless without sharing our findings to the public! Therefore, science communication is very important.

Your objective in this assessment is: to communicate your scientific findings to your classmates (public). Each group is expected to present the outcome of their research projects to the rest of the class. This year, you can choose from 2 possible options: (1) a standard “live” slide **presentation** (i.e. powerpoint, keynote, prezi) OR (2) an **original video** presentation. The criteria for both styles are similar, though the grading rubric will differ slightly. **For tips on science presentations, refer to: <https://www.asp.org/education/EffectivePresentations.pdf>**

Essentially, each group must frame the problem, question, gaps and hypotheses that focus your research in a meaningful way. You should share the relevant details of the methods you used (without getting too specific) and focus the majority of your time on the discussion of your results and what conclusions can be drawn. If your project was a success, what are the implications to environmental science and society? If your project did not generate conclusive results, what would you do differently next time to confirm? What other ways could you address the problem?

All presentations should be short, sweet, and to the point. Oral presentations should be well-rehearsed and speakers should avoid saying “um, uh, er, em, etc.” and other meaningless noises. It is far better to practice pausing with silence to let your brain catch up with your mouth. Video presentations should be sharp, clear and dynamic/exciting. You must inject some enthusiasm into your video and present your science in a way that is accessible to a general audience (imagine if you put the video on YouTube!). Keep in mind that overly “epic” soundtracks may detract from your message.

Otherwise, there is no specific format required for either the presentation or video options. I value creativity, clarity, timing and emphasis on the scientific method.

Please see below for the rubrics which will be used to assess your work. Your group will be ranked from “beginner” to “exemplary” which provides a multiplier (0.25 to 1.0) to the total points possible for each category. Each student will be given a brief “oral exam” to assess the level of individual understanding of the project in each team.

For groups that choose the video option, most modern smart phones have HD and high storage capacity. Students may use a desktop in my laboratory equipped with iMovie for editing. We also have several GoPro cameras for ENVS student use on a sign-out basis. These are particularly useful for documenting time in the field.

As always, I welcome your questions in advance of this assignment’s due date of:

DECEMBER 1st (REVISION WEEK & FINAL CLASS MEETING)

VIDEO PRESENTATION (limited to 5 minutes, 3 minutes for questions)

Assessment	Beginner 25%	Developing 50%	Accomplished 75%	Exemplary 100%	SCORE
Content	The content lacks a central theme, clear point of view and logical sequence of information. Much of the supporting information in the video is irrelevant to the overall message. Audience cannot understand video because there is no sequence of information	The content does not present a clearly stated theme, is vague, and some of the supporting information does not seem to fit the main idea or appears as a disconnected series of scenes with no unifying main idea.	Information is presented as a connected theme with accurate, current supporting information that contributes to understanding the project's main idea.	The content includes a clear statement of purpose or theme and is creative, compelling and clearly written. A rich variety of supporting information in the video contributes to understanding the project's main idea. The video includes stimulating questions and is presented in a logical order.	/20
Presentation	The graphics and/or animations are unrelated to the content. Graphics do not enhance understanding the content, or are distracting decorations that detract from the content.	Some of the graphics and/or animations seem unrelated to the topic/theme and do not enhance concepts.	The graphics or animation visually depict material and assist the audience in understanding the flow of information or content.	The graphics and/or animation assist in presenting an overall theme that appeals to the audience and enhances concepts with a high impact message. Graphics explain and reinforce key points during the presentation.	/15
Audio Editing	The audio is cut-off and inconsistent or overpowering.	The audio is inconsistent in clarity (too loud/too soft) at times and/or the background audio overpowers the primary audio.	The audio is clear and assists in communicating the main idea.	The audio is clear and effectively assists in communicating the main idea. Background audio is kept in balance.	/5

ENVS2001 GROUP PRESENTATION EVALUATION RUBRIC

GROUP: _____

Assessment	Beginner 25%	Developing 50%	Accomplished 75%	Exemplary 100%	SCORE
Timing	The video features "talking heads" with little or no action to add interest or the video uses action excessively.	The video includes "talking heads" and a few motion scenes are added but do not improve understanding of the story line.	The video includes some "talking heads," and backgrounds and video effects add interest. Most motion scenes make the story clearer or give it more impact.	Video clips show no slack time. The video is well-paced and engaging	/5
Individual Response	Unable to answer direct question. Not responsive to hints.	Able to respond to question with additional support. Limited understanding.	Responds to question with little to no prompting. Demonstrates some understanding.	Accurate and detailed response to answer. Demonstrates full understanding.	/5
TOTAL					/50

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION RUBRIC (LIMITED TO 12 minutes; 3 minutes for questions)

Assessment	Beginner 25%	Developing 50%	Accomplished 75%	Exemplary 100%	SCORE
Information	Audience cannot understand presentation because there is no sequence of information	Audience has difficulty following presentation because content is not continuous	Group presents information in a logical sequence which the audience can follow.	Group presents information in a logical, interesting sequence which the audience can follow.	/10
Knowledge of Subject	Group does not have grasp of information; group cannot answer questions about subject.	Group is uncomfortable with information and is able to only answer rudimentary questions.	Group is at ease with expected answers to all questions but fails to elaborate.	Group demonstrates full knowledge (more than required) by answering all questions with elaborations and explanations.	/10
Presentation	Group's presentation has text errors which detract from the presentation. Poor or no use of graphics.	Presentation text errors which do not aid the presentation. Some use of graphics with errors and lack of clarity	Presentation has few textual and graphical errors that do not detract from the presentation.	Presentation has no textural errors. Graphics are well designed and assist the presentation markedly.	/15
Engagement	Group does not engage the audience with eye contact.	Group occasionally uses eye contact, but mostly reads from notes.	Group maintains eye contact with audience, frequently referencing notes.	Group maintains eye contact and seldom requires notes.	/5
Speaking	Group members mumble, incorrectly pronounce terms and speak too quietly for the audience to hear.	Group's voices are low. Members incorrectly pronounce key terms. Audience has difficulty hearing presentation.	Group presentation is clear. Most words are pronounced correctly and the audience can hear the presentation.	Group uses a clear voice and correct pronunciation of all terms so that all audience members can hear clearly.	/5
Individual Response	Unable to answer direct question. Not responsive to hints.	Able to respond to question with additional support. Limited understanding.	Responds to question with little to no prompting. Demonstrates some understanding.	Accurate and detailed response to answer. Demonstrates full understanding.	/5
TOTAL					/50