

## Environmental Science Video Presentation Project

### Assignment Instructions

Bi Sc 3, sec1; Fall 2015

Objective: to choose, research, and create a video-recorded oral presentation of an environmental issue

**Step 1.** Form a small group of 3-4 students. Establish group member expectations and divide up roles and responsibilities. (see intro PowerPoint on Angel)

**Step 2.** Choose an environmental issue of concern and of interest to group members. The issue should have environmental as well as other aspects or viewpoints, such as social, economic, political, or health. It can be related to our local Erie area or elsewhere and current or historical.

**Ideas:** Drinking water safety, Marcellus Shale hydraulic fracturing, climate change, status of local wetlands, food industry, species extinction, air pollution, mining (a more specific aspect of these should be chosen)

**Step 3.** Turn in topic and viewpoints for instructor approval by the topic deadline, **Monday 10/19/15**.

**Step 4.** Once approved, thoroughly research the issue and learn about the various different viewpoints. Find material from a variety of reliable resources, especially science sources, and evaluate possible solutions. Compile a list of sources used (at least five). You may use any standard format, such as MLA, but please include website addresses. Sources are due by **Wednesday 11/4/15**.

**Step 5.** Prepare an oral presentation including PowerPoint slides on the environmental issue to last between 8-10 minutes. Information should include the issue's background, viewpoints, and solutions. See rubric below for more specific guidelines. PowerPoint slides should include visuals (photos, diagrams, graphs) and limited text. (Note cards are fine to help with talking points.) Video footage of areas, e.g. local wetlands or streams, may be included, but should not last more than 2 minutes of the video.

**Step 6.** Video-record the oral presentation. This must be done using the One Button Studio in the Behrend Library, room 23. (Sign-ups and more information will be given in early Nov.) Be sure to watch it yourselves to verify that everyone can be heard and understood.

**Step 7.** Submit the presentation and final sources by the deadline, **Wednesday 11/18/15**.

**Step 8.** Complete the reflection and peer evaluation questions included in the Week 13 Assignment due **Friday 11/20/15**. Each group member will confidentially evaluate the other members, and points will be assigned according to the ratings.

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### Rubric for Evaluation

(100 points total)

Points will be assigned according to quality within each category.

15 pts Clearly defined issue (10 pts for topic deadline)

10 pts Background information

20 pts Viewpoints explained and analyzed

10 pts Use of facts and scientific evidence (credible sources)

10 pts Solutions suggested and evaluated

10 pts PowerPoint slides used with visuals and limited text

5 pts Presentation lasted between 8-10 minutes

5 pts Each person spoke approximately equal amount of time and at least 2 min each

15 pts List of ≥ 5 sources in standard format such as MLA, including website addresses (10 pts initial list)