This project will give you the opportunity to explore a topic that relates geology and the environment in which we live in greater depth. The topic can be of your choosing, anything is fair game (subject to my approval for appropriateness to the course). The project will involve researching your chosen topic, summarizing the important details in a 5-7 page paper, and presenting the topic to the class in the form of a PowerPoint Presentation. The total project is worth 100 points.

**Project Requirements and Due Dates:**

**Project Proposal**
You are to turn a short (no longer than 1-page) proposal outlining your topic and what you are hoping to accomplish.
- The proposal must be typewritten.
- It should contain bibliographic citations from two initial sources you have found.
- The bibliographies should be written in APA format.

**Due:** Thursday, April 21, 2006
5 points; points will be deducted for late submittals

**Project Progress Meeting**
You will sign up for a short (10 minute) meeting to discuss your understanding of the topic, tell me the title of your project, and show me the illustrations you are considering for your presentation. The purpose of the meeting is to see how you are progressing and to identify any areas that might give you problems on your final paper and presentation.

**Meetings: Monday - Thursday, May 1 to May 4, 2006**
15 points; points will be deducted for missing your scheduled meeting time.

**Project Paper**
You are to turn in a 5-7 page paper on your topic.
- The paper must be typewritten, double-spaced.
- It must contain an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- In-text citation of your sources is required. The paper must include a Works Cited Page.
- Format for citation and referencing is attached. We will be using an APA format.

**Due:** Friday, May 19, 2006
50 points; points will be deducted for late submittals

**Project Presentation**
You are to give a brief (5-7 minute) presentation about your topic using PowerPoint to display graphics and text that help you to convey the important points of your research.
- A printed copy of the PowerPoint file must be submitted for grading.
- Suggestions for how to format a poster or the PowerPoint presentation are attached.

**Due:** Posters or PowerPoint files are due the day of your presentation.
Presentations begin Tuesday, May 23, 2006
30 points; points will be deducted for not attending during presentation days.
A Note About Sources

Calling/visiting government agencies: If you're working on a local issues, you might want to actually call or visit with some local agencies. For example: if you want to know about groundwater contamination problems in the this area, call the Department of Ecology. If you need information about where your water comes from or where your waste goes, call your water district or your waste management company, etc. Remember this: it is okay to use these people as a resource. Most are government agencies; they employ people to handle questions/concerns like yours. However, you can prevent them from feeling like thy are doing your homework by preparing specific questions before you contact them.

Visit your local branch library: Libraries in your community often have a wide variety of government publications, including Environmental Impact Statements, for local projects.

Visit the school library: The research librarians at Highline are highly efficient and can help you seek out good information. They can show you how to use databases such as Proquest, which contain peer-reviewed articles from scientific journals. Its okay to use newspapers and popular magazines, like National Geographic, just remember, at least some of your sources should be college level.

Search the internet: The USGS, EPA, Dept. of Interior, most universities and many other governmental and scientific research organizations have extensive material on the internet. Try to stick to legitimate scientific or research organization. Use the information on other websites sparingly, especially if you cannot find the sponsoring organization or author's name and credentials.

Citations and Referencing for Papers

You must make a citation in the text of your paper for any information taken from a source. This ties specific information to specific sources. We will be using the APA citation style. In this style, the authors’ last names and the year of publication are used in the in-text citation. If the author’s last name is not known, then the sponsoring organization is used. For example:

Mount Hanson has had four eruptive periods in the past 10,000 years (Sayer and Montgomery, 1999). Each period has lasted anywhere from 600 to 1,000 years and has been followed by dormant periods. The composition of the magmas from different eruptive periods illustrates how the volcano's eruptions have changed over time (USGS, 2002). Magmas from the first eruptive period in.....

Your paper must contain a Works Cited page. For every source you have cited within the text, you should have a complete bibliography listed on the Works Cite Page. For example:


USGS, 2002, Volcanic Hazards of Mount Hanson, Special Interest Publication 1956-02, pp. 480.
PowerPoint Recommendations

PowerPoint presentations should include the following components:

**Title and Name:**
- Your first slide should be a title slide that includes your name.

**Slide “Body”:**
- Your presentation should be a combination of text and graphics that help your peers understand your topic better.
- Graphics can be images you've scanned in or downloaded. They can include graphs, tables, maps, photographs, or hand-drawn images.
- Short, explanatory captions should be present for all graphics.
- You must compose all text and illustration captions on your own. (Meaning, if you take the figure from one of your sources, don’t cut and paste their caption. Put it in your own words. Write your own.)
- You must compose all text. No electronic copies of text or captions.

**References:**
- Your last slide should include a list of the references you used.
Project Grading Sheet
G110 - Spring 2006

Name __________________

Proposal ___/5 points
   ____ Turned in ____ Turned in late ____ Not turned in

Progress Meeting ___/15 points
   ____ Good ______ Satisfactory _____ No progress made _____ Did not attend

Paper ____/50 points

   Introduction (5 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Needs Improvement ____ Not Included

   Organization of Information (Body) (5 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Need Improvement

   Level of Detail/Content (20 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Does not meet expectations

   Clarity (5 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Needs Improvement

   Conclusion (5 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Needs Improvement ____ Not Included

   Citations used correctly and in proper format (5 points possible)
      (Note: This is not whether you have them or not. No citations = 0.0 on paper)
      ____ Excellent _____ A Few Citations Missing _____ Format needs work

   Sources/References (Quality/Quantity Appropriateness) (5 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____ Inappropriate

Presentation ___/30 points

   Clarity of Explanations/Speaking Style (10 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Needs Improvement

   Effectiveness of Visual Aids (15 points possible)
      ____ Excellent ____ Good _____ Fair _____ Needs Improvement

   Participation/Attendance of Presentation Session (5 points possible)
      _____ Met Requirements _____ Late Arrivals/Absences

Comments:

______/100 points