

ENVS 154: Principles of Sustainable Agriculture

<u>Term Paper</u>	<u>34%</u>
February 28: Topic Proposal	2%
March 13: Annotated Bibliography (1-2 pp)	4%
April 3: Annotated Outline (3-5 pp)	7%
April 17: First Draft (10-15pp)	8%
May 1: Final Draft (15 pp)	10%
May 15: Informal Presentation	3%

TOPIC PROPOSAL: BY February 28 (two weeks): hand in a THREE SHORT PARAGRAPH proposal for the topic you wish to research. Choose a FOCUSED topic in sustainable agriculture that:

- is CONTROVERSIAL or INTERESTING;
- is GENERALLY NEW INFORMATION for you;
- is RELATED to some topic you would like to pursue in the future; and
- has some importance to you PERSONALLY.

Paragraph 1: the general context for the CONTROVERSY or PROBLEM.

Paragraph 2: a few initial DETAILS about the issue: providing a framework for the rest of your research

Paragraph 3: an example of an APPLICATION of the research results in your life.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY: BY March 13 (four weeks): hand in a 1-2 page bibliography (see http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/annotated_bibliographies.html) with:

- at least FIVE (5) PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL articles (print or online) you will use to substantiate your argument.
- You may also show BOOKS you will use (NOT INCLUDING OUR TEXTBOOK), but I prefer that you
- DO NOT CITE ANONYMOUS WEBSITES OR ENCYCLOPEDIA entries for this assignment. They are often full of misinformation, and they do not provide original data.

Please format this bibliography as

- an alphabetized (by primary author's last name) list of sources you will use,
- with a short (1-3 sentence) summary of each article; how it relates to your topic; and strengths or weaknesses of the content.

Citation format should follow rules for the name-date format of the Council of Science Editors (CSE) for this course. Rules for this citation format can be found at <http://library.osu.edu/sites/guides/cse/d.php>. Please single space and "hanging indent" your citations, but add a space between paragraphs. Here are some examples of the format to use:

Allan SA. 2001. Ticks (Class Arachnida: Order Acarina). In: Samuel WM, Pybus MJ, Kocan AA, editors. Parasitic diseases of wild mammals. 2nd ed. Ames (IA): Iowa State University Press. p 72-106.

Cox J, Engstrom RT. 2001. Influence of the spatial pattern of conserved lands on the persistence of a large population of red-cockaded woodpeckers. Biol Conserv. 100(1): 137-150.

ANNOTATED OUTLINE: BY April 3 (seven weeks): hand in a 3-5 page outline showing the full structure of your paper, showing how you will arrange your citations to support your argument. This outline should take the form of

- **Introduction and thesis statement:** General thesis statement and intro to ~5 subtopics to be covered in the paper)
- **Subtopic 1:** (specify subtopic and cite references to be used to flesh out discussion, using (Name, date) citation style in the text. **Note that parentheses precede punctuation in the text.**
- **Subtopic 2:** (specify subtopic and cite references to be used)
- **Subtopic 3:** (specify subtopic and cite references to be used)
- **Subtopic 4:** (specify subtopic and cite references to be used)
- **Subtopic 5:** (specify subtopic and cite references to be used)
- **Conclusion:** synthesis of evidence from subtopics and your personal applications/experiences
- **Literature Cited** (simple list of all the references you have used, in alphabetical order by primary author's last name, using CSE format)

FIRST COMPLETE DRAFT OF TERM PAPER: BY April 17 (9 weeks): hand in a well-developed 10-15 page discussion of all your research references, in the order you have laid them out earlier. Be sure to include your full literature cited, references in the text, and do your very best with this paper.

- Try to analyze/criticize the works you reference, don't just repeat the authors' points.
- I prefer that you AVOID DIRECT QUOTES, but do paraphrase the authors and cite their ideas (name, date).

FINAL DRAFT OF TERM PAPER: BY May 1 (11 weeks): responding to my comments and improving your arguments/style.

VERBAL PRESENTATION on May 15 (12 weeks): each student will describe your research findings to your classmates at the final exam period. You will have about 3 minutes to go over the highlights of your paper. **You may use handouts, but we should not expect to have powerpoint available.**