

EnvS 001: INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

MICROTHEME 2 (worth 5 points)

For this assignment, first read the three articles provided by Oreskes (2004), Peiser (2005), and Lindzen (2001). The full citation for each essay is given at the bottom of these instructions.

Second, fill in the attached spreadsheet (hand-written is fine), which provides criteria for evaluating the credibility of each article. You will use this information as the basis for your parts of your essay. Hand in the spreadsheet with the essay.

Finally, write a short essay of 500 words. This is a more formal essay than the first Microtheme. It requires citations and analysis. Begin by introducing the topic of your essay. Early on in your essay, state what it means to have "scientific consensus". Using your own words, state the view of each author. Cite each author using in-text citation style. Discuss whether the article seems to be a valid source of information or not. Support your evaluation based on the spreadsheet. Is there anything all three authors agree upon? Based on these essays, do you think there is scientific consensus on climate change?

Type your paper using 1 and 1/2 or double spacing and 12-point type. Give the full citation for each article at the bottom of your essay. Attach and turn in your spreadsheet.

Here are some writing tips for this essay:

1. Use the active voice; avoid passive voice. In other words, always have a subject clearly stated for each sentence.
2. Along those same lines, use "it", "this", "that" as subjects sparingly. Once again, state the actual subject you are talking about.
3. Use in-text citations to provide information from the three essays. For example, when paraphrasing information from an essay give the author and year of article in parentheses right after the statement, like this: (Oreskes, 2004). Or you might say, According to Oreskes (2004), ... If you use exact words from an author, you must use quotes and the in-text citation, too. For each source you cite in the text, include a full bibliographic reference at the end of your paper. I have given you those full citations at the end of this assignment.
4. Don't speculate. Stick strictly to what the authors say.

5. This is a more formal essay than the first one, so don't use "I", "me", or "my", not even when stating your conclusion.
6. Be sure to address all parts of the assignment.

Due: **February 10, 2009**

Citations

Lindzen, R. S. (2001, June 11). Scientists' report doesn't support the Kyoto Treaty. *The Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved January 30, 2009, from ProQuest database.

Oreskes, N. (2004). The scientific consensus on climate change. *Science*, 306, 1686. Retrieved January 30, 2009, from EBSCOhost database.

Peiser, B. (2005, May 10) A space for climate change skeptics: response to David King. Posted to Open Democracy News Analysis (<http://www.opendemocracy.net>), archived at <http://www.opendemocracy.net/debates/article-6-129-2490.jsp>

Spreadsheet for Evaluating Article Credibility

Answer the questions below. For "yes" answers, give an example

	Oreskes	Peiser	Lindzen
Does the author appear to have expertise in the field? Give credentials.			
Are findings from other researchers cited in the text of the paper? Give an example.			
Are biased sources cited? Give an example.			
Does the author cite his/her own original data? Give an example.			
Does the article appear in a peer-reviewed journal?			
Does the article cite other scholarly research at the end of the article?			
Is the author unbiased and logical in her/his interpretation?			