INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM LLC COURSE PROJECT

Due: Thursday, November 3 by 11:59 pm

Part of the idea of the Natural World LLC is that students in different courses should be encouraged to interact and think in interdisciplinary ways. To further this goal, students in Dr. Prairie’s EOSC 123 Organisms and Ecosystems and Dr. Nelson’s THRS 203 Religion and Ecology preceptorials will be asked to work together in teams on an interdisciplinary team project.

The Assignment

The assignment will be to work in a team to create a simple and short (4-6 minute) video, using images and narration, describing a situation that brings together the concerns of a religious community with the perspective of ecologists and environmental scientists. The instructors will propose several topics, together with several basic readings on the religious and scientific aspects of the situations. The basic readings will be available on Google Drive (which can be accessed via a link on Blackboard) or in some cases online (if links are provided).

Students will be asked to gather video and images and prepare a narrative describing the situation, the religious context and how it bears on the situation, the scientific background, and the outcome (or possible outcomes). Then put these together using simple video editing software (iMovie, Explain Everything, etc.). The audio of your video should be narration by members of your team, so if you use video clips from the web, you will want to replace the audio with your narration. In some cases you can use very short sound bytes of interviews, etc. if you think that it adds to your presentation. Your video should include a title slide with a title and the names of each team member. Should be fun!

There will be one required meeting to discuss the project during dead hours on Thursday, October 6, from 12:30-2:00 pm in SCST 232. All students in both courses must attend. Student teams will then be required to meet outside of class to finish the project. There will be also be a student technology assistant, Aman Chopra (amanchopra@sandiego.edu), who will be available to help you with issues of putting together and editing movies in iMovie. He will also hold a few tutorial sessions on iMovie during dead hours.
Deadlines

A storyboard outlining the concepts and images/video clips (along with sources) to be used for your team’s completed video project will be due on Thursday, October 20 by 11:59 pm and should be submitted by email to both Dr. Prairie and Dr. Nelson. A template for the storyboard will be available on Blackboard. Your completed video project will be due to Dr. Prairie and Dr. Nelson on Thursday, November 3 by 11:59 pm. You will submit your finished video using Google Drive. (Ask one member of the team to upload the file to her/his Google Drive, then share it with jcprairie@sandiego.edu and lnelson@sandiego.edu.) Then, your finished videos will be projected at our LLC Symposium on Saturday, November 5.

Credits

At the end of your video, you should list the sources that you used to construct your narration, as well as the sources of the images or video that you used. If there are too many to list, or if this is technically too difficult, you may instead turn in a Word document listing these source along with your video.

Grading

Your team’s video project will be graded based on the following criteria, described in more detail below. Each student is expected to communicate with their fellow team members, attend any team meetings, and contribute to the storyboard and final video. However, teams can choose to divide the work however they feel makes the most sense given the different skill sets and academic background of the team members. Each team member will receive the same grade for the video project. The total grade for the video project will be out of 50 points.

1. Discussion of Topic from Religion Perspective  12 points

   Incorporate a focused and thoughtful discussion of the topic from the religious perspective, drawing on concepts from class (THRS 203) and using at least two scholarly or news sources. Remember you should introduce the topic, providing adequate background such that another member from the LLC, but without any previous knowledge of the subject, can understand your discussion.

2. Discussion of Topic from Ecological/Scientific Perspective  12 points

   Incorporate a focused and thoughtful discussion of the topic from the ecological/scientific perspective, drawing on concepts from class (EOSC 123) and
using at least two scholarly or news sources. Remember you should introduce the topic, providing adequate background such that another member from the LLC, but without any previous knowledge of the subject, can understand your discussion.

3. **Integration of Religion and Ecology Concepts** 12 points

The discussion of religious and scientific concepts should be integrated throughout the video, and clear connections between the disciplines should be articulated.

4. **Storyboard (due on Thursday, October 20)** 7 points

A complete storyboard should be turned in on time, specifically outlining the order and content of concepts and images/video clips (with sources) that will be used in your video.

5. **Video Presentation Style and Editing and References** 7 points

Your video should be put together in a way that is organized, clear, and visually appealing. For help on video editing, contact the student technology assistant, Aman Chopra (amanchopra@sandiego.edu). References of sources used in the video must be provided at the end of the video, or on a separate word document submitted to Dr. Nelson and Dr. Prairie.

Total: 50 points

**Topics**

The four topics, and associated suggested readings, are listed below.

The suggested readings that are in PDF format (marked [GD] below) are available on Google Drive to anyone logged into the sandiego.edu domain. Click here for access if you’re using a digital version of this document. Otherwise, the link will also be available on Blackboard.

**Note Carefully:** Your team does not have to use all the sources listed under your topic, but you’ll need to use at least two from each category—religious studies and ecology—for a total of at least four. If you find an additional source that you want to use, please check with Dr. Prairie or Dr. Nelson for approval. Do not use Wikipedia or similar sources, except for general background (and even then be cautious).
1. Native Americans, Environmentalists, and the Effects of Dams on River Ecosystems

Background reading - Religious Studies Perspective


Background reading - Ecology Perspective


2. **Traditional Hindus, Environmentalists, and the Pollution of the Ganges River**

   **Background reading - Religious Studies Perspective**


   **Background reading - Ecology Perspective**


3. **Buddhism, Buddhist Activists, and Deforestation in Thailand**

   **Background reading - Religious Studies Perspective**


Background reading - Ecology Perspective


4. Christianity and Climate Change

Background reading - Religious Studies Perspective


Background reading - Ecology Perspective


2050 is Calling. Climate Education Partners Report. [GD] and more info on website: http://www.sandiego.edu/2050.