

## ENVD 4420: Planning Capstone

Precedent and Project Proposal Assignments, 25% of final grade

### Precedent Research: Due February 12<sup>th</sup>, 10% of final grade

Identify two precedents that can support the understanding of your capstone topic. These **cannot** be located in Boulder, Colorado. Use images, diagrams, and text to describe each precedent individually. Describe the setting and context, analysis or work undertaken, findings, lessons and recommendations for each precedent. Each precedent should be described in 1-2 pages. Then use comparative case analysis to compare the two cases and develop ideas that are more generalizable. Comparative case analysis is a research method used to explore complex systems, cultural practices or behaviors, and problems where there may be variation between different variables being explored. Comparing different cases can help evaluate whether a specific idea or approach to a problem is valid / can be applied to other settings. To develop your comparative case analysis, evaluate the precedent material based on the issues and variables you are interested in. Your case analysis may be qualitative, quantitative or both. DePaul provides a helpful guide to comparative case writing. The comparative case analysis should also be 1-2 pages long, and may include images, diagrams, and text.

[http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/writers/Types\\_of\\_Writing/comparative.html](http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/writers/Types_of_Writing/comparative.html)

### Project Proposal: Due February 26<sup>th</sup>, 15% of final grade

This is a re-iteration of your TOC assignment, with added depth and detail. You will turn in the following:

- i) A one paragraph project description (in abstract form)
- ii) 1-2 paragraphs stating the global significance (how might this project apply to other contexts). Use sources from your precedent research and at least two other sources published in an academic journal on the topic.
- iii) A well-written 2-3 paragraph summary of the literature findings.
- iv) An annotated bibliography with at least 10 sources, meeting the following criteria
  - a. At least **3 peer-reviewed academic papers** that address the global issue you will address through your capstone
  - b. At least **2 books or 2 additional peer reviewed papers** that contain essays or reflections on the topic
  - c. At least **3 sources that provide description + analysis of a project** that is relevant. These may be from your precedent research.
  - d. **Two additional sources** (can be popular or professional journal articles, web articles, or any of the above source types).
  - e. **You MAY use course readings** (as additional sources) in your bibliography, but they should clearly support the ideas you need to develop
  - f. Use APA style for bibliography and citations.
- v) Methods of data collection and analysis
  - a. ALL projects must collect some kind of supporting data from people, through focus groups, interviews, behavior mapping, or other methods.
- vi) Desired outcomes from project (in bullet or sentence form)
  - a. Product outcomes (what will you produce, e.g., maps showing XXX, images showing XXX, a series of recommendations, etc.)

b. Process outcomes (what you will learn about the processes involved in planning, e.g. how to effectively engage with people, how to conduct critical analysis using GIS, etc.)  
c. What outcomes from your capstone will contribute to the development of guidelines for resilience

- v) Timeline of tasks
- v) Questions or concerns and who you can ask