

RS 370: Religion and Ecology

Final Video Project

Purpose

One of my main goals for my Religion and Ecology students is to help them envision themselves as important actors who can contribute unique perspectives for addressing the environmental crisis. The final video project advances this goal by requiring students to make videos that teach something about environmental sustainability to people in their own communities. Through this assignment, they practice skills as leaders who can communicate their expert knowledge in ways that make sense in their own communities' contexts.

Task Overview

Students are placed in groups of approximately four students each. I teach them how to make short videos using the free [Adobe Spark](#) platform, which is user-friendly and simple to use. The groups then identify the most important or interesting things they learned during the semester, and create videos that can teach those concepts to others.

Assignment Details

Final Group Project: Throughout the semester our class has been exploring how religion, race, ethnicity, and class shape environmental attitudes and behaviors in the contemporary United States.

As we've analyzed these issues through an academic lens, we have simultaneously completed "Ecological Footprint Journals" in order to reflect on the role of class concepts in our own lives. Throughout the semester you have been encouraged to embrace a proactive viewpoint as you face the environmental crisis, focusing on things that you can do to improve the situation rather than disintegrating into a pit of despair.

For your final group project, you will have the opportunity to combine these two aspects of the class. Your job is to create a short (approximately 2-minute) video in which you educate the public about some aspect of religion and ecology that you learned throughout the semester. The possibilities are endless! As a group, determine what is most important for people to know, and then develop a creative way to inform them.

The final format for this video is entirely up to your group. I happen to LOVE Adobe Spark, a free program that enables you to make really cool posters and short videos. But if you have a skillset that can apply to this project, please feel free to use it!

This is a group project, will be graded as a group. However, you will complete evaluations of contributions of every individual in group, and individual grades will be adjusted as needed.

All videos are due by 11:59 PM on Sunday, May 6. Peer evaluations are due at the beginning of class on May 7. The videos will be screened in class during the final two meetings of the semester.

Final projects will be graded based on the following categories:

- 1) Relevance to course
- 2) Significance and accuracy of information conveyed
- 3) Creativity of presentation
- 4) Contributions to the team

Self and Peer Evaluation for Final Group Project:

Each team member must print this form, fill it out, and turn in at the beginning of class on Monday, May 7.

Please rate everyone in the group, including yourself, on a scale from 1-4 in each category.

- 4 = Exceptional
- 3 = Good
- 2 = Fair
- 1 = Poor

NAME	1. My name _____	2. Member's name _____	3. Member's name _____	4. Member's name _____	5. Member's name _____
Collaboration					
Participation					

Preparation					
Quality of input					
Knowledge of subject					
Communication					
Total Score out of 24					

Comments: