

Extra Credit Assignments

Each of the assignments below may be attempted only once per student. You must follow all directions and put forth honest effort to receive full credit.

My Vacation (Due by November 6)

Up to 10 points

If you have traveled outside the lower 48 United States, and have pictures that capture the climate of the place you have been, choose your favorite 5-10 climatologically relevant pictures and put them into a PowerPoint file. Prepare a presentation no more than 7 minutes long. All of the pictures should be ones that you took or your traveling partners took. One of the pictures must include you, experiencing the place. The first slide should include a graph of the water balance for the location (PET, AET, Precipitation). Use the model you create in assignment 6.

Music Review (Due by December 11)

Up to 50 points

Find a recording of Sinfonia Antartica (that is the way it is spelled in Italian) by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Listen to it. Write the performance details: Orchestra, conductor, recording date, label. In a ~1500 word essay, discuss the historical context of the piece including the history of captain Scott's explorations of Antarctica. Discuss the structure of the piece and the inspiration for each of the 5 movements. What compositional techniques does Vaughan Williams employ to musically depict the climate of Antarctica?

In the last paragraph, what are your thoughts on the piece? Do you like it? Why or why not (give a good reason here- not just "I love all classical music" or "I fell asleep"? How did it make you feel?

Email your review as an attachment to geog345@gmail.com. In the email body, type the honor code and type your name. Type "Extra Credit Music Review" in the heading.

Philosophy Essay (Due by December 11)

Up to 50 points

Write a ~1500 word essay that addresses the following questions. I'm not looking for a research paper, but I am interested in you forming a thesis and logically defending your argument.

In ancient times, climatological knowledge was practical knowledge necessary for survival- when to plant, when to hunt, when to store food, when to take shelter, etc. Do you believe that knowledge of climatology is as relevant today? If so, why, if not, why not?

In today's world, who should be awarded a college degree? the smartest people? the wealthiest? the most connected? the hardest working? everybody? What should "having a college degree" say about the holder? Should someone with a college degree be expected to have knowledge of climatology? If so, why, if not, why not?

Email your essay as an attachment to geog345@gmail.com. In the email body, type the honor code and type your name. Type "Extra Credit Philosophy Essay" in the heading.

Book Report (Due by December 11)

Up to 75 points

Read *Collapse* by Jared Diamond.

Write a ~1500 word essay describing in what climate change factored into the collapse of past civilizations. Give specific examples from the book. Describe the measures these societies took in the face of a changing climate and their ultimate outcome. Jared Diamond's thesis is that societies choose to fail or succeed. Do you agree or disagree? If you agree, what specific actions do you think these societies could have taken to succeed? If you disagree, explain why you believe that the societies were doomed to fail despite any possible action they could have taken.

Email your essay as an attachment to geog345@gmail.com. In the email body, type the honor code and type your name. Type "Extra Credit Book Report" in the heading.

Art Project (Due by December 11)

Up to 150 points

It's been said that the decline of a society is preceded by a decline in the arts.

Create 4 pictures of the same subject but vary the clouds. One painting must include some type of low level cloud (e.g. cumulus) , one painting should include a mid-level cloud (e.g., alto-stratus), one painting should include some type of high-level cloud (e.g., cirrus), and one should include a vertically integrated cloud (e.g., cumulonimbus).

[http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/\(Gh\)/guides/mtr/cld/cldtyp/home.xml](http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/(Gh)/guides/mtr/cld/cldtyp/home.xml)

<http://www.eo.ucar.edu/webweather/cloud3.html>

Guidelines:

The media may include any type of paint or chalk/oil pastels or a mixture of those. Sorry, no photography. The pictures must be two dimensional (no sculptures or dioramas) and at least 12" per side (i.e., 12 x 12" okay, 12 x 18" okay, 8.5" x 11" not okay) and composed on canvas or art paper (no sketches on the back of a newspaper...) All 4 paintings must use the same media and be the same dimensions. The clouds should not be the subject of the painting, but should be used to create the mood and emphasize the subject's relationship to the changing environment. The art must be your own work- do not commission or purchase art.

Here's an example:

<http://critpit.blogspot.com/2008/02/my-heads-in-clouds.html>

Another idea is to create 4 paintings that do the four seasons (a common art theme) but also contain different cloud types for each season. You don't have to do this, but it may help create contrast between your pictures.

<http://chineseartbrushes.com/images/cab-4540-four-seasons-chinese-brush-paintings-set.jpg>

You keep your art, but to get credit, you must present it in front of the class and describe each of the cloud types you used, describe the clouds in terms of altitude and weather characteristics (you can use

notes for this). I won't score you on your artistic ability, so this is a perfect chance to try painting if you never have. I just want to see evidence of effort and pride in your work, and a basic knowledge of the cloud types you used.

http://painting.about.com/od/howtopaintcloudsandsky/ss/clouds_wetonwet.htm

When you are ready to show your art, Email a note to geog345@gmail.com. In the email body, type the honor code and type your name. Type "Extra Credit Art Project" in the heading.