

**Assignment:** This assignment is a 10 minute group presentation on reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions on campus. As you know, Davidson College in this Year of Sustainability is committed to reducing its carbon emissions. You are to present to the Sustainability Council substantive initiatives that could be adopted by the college to reduce carbon emissions. This could be a proposal for the institution or for the student body to initiate steps that would reduce the rate of increase in atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide. Your suggested change should be one that would produce a tangible reduction in carbon dioxide emissions (i.e., protesting Duke Power's proposed coal burning electric plant or providing environmental education to elementary school students are not viable proposals since they will not immediately affect carbon dioxide emissions). Also, the rather obvious steps such as walk or bike to class rather than drive, or turn off lights when you leave a room, are off limits.

Your group presentation should assume that the potential for rapid climate change constitutes the most pressing environmental issue of our times. Like previous assignments, this presentation should be interdisciplinary and draw on a breadth of material covered in the course. It should be well-organized. This is worth 10% of your grade.

The format for this presentation will be group-defined – that is, you and your mates will decide how you want to present this proposal to the class.

Your group's power point presentation needs to address the following points:

1. An explanation of how the proposed action would reduce carbon dioxide emissions or slow the rate of increase in atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide.
2. A carbon dioxide emissions cost/benefit analysis of your proposed change vs. the status quo. If the status quo is more carbon dioxide conservative (i.e., the present process emits less carbon dioxide than your suggestion), explain why.
3. Discussion of any new technology/strategies you discovered in your research that would address the same issue as your initial proposal, but produce even lower carbon dioxide emissions (e.g., initial suggestion - recycle plastic shopping bags; better solution - bring your own canvas bag to the store).
4. A minimum of 5 *reliable* supporting references. Reliable means material that you find in textbooks, articles in peer reviewed journals, or publications issued by government agencies (e.g., US Dept of Energy, UN IPCC report).
5. You could have one slide showing your citations or you could add them as footnotes.

**Groups:** For this presentation, you will choose your own group of 4 or 5 students. You will meet with your group in class on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, so email and organize your groups prior to class.

**Presentation Submission:** Email a copy of your Power Point Presentation (in .pptx format with a file name that is reflective of your group) to Dr. Paradise no later than 11 am, Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. They will be uploaded to a network folder so that we can quickly zip between presentations during class.

**Instructor, Peer, and Self Assessment:** We will assess your presentations based on the Group Presentation Evaluation Form (posted on the CIS 171 webpage) and also on the basis of your peer and self assessment. It will be helpful for you to consult the Group Presentation evaluation form as you and your partners prepare your presentation. The professors will evaluate the presentations, assuming each group member initially earns the same grade.

In addition, we will adjust the grades to reflect the assessment given by each group member of the effectiveness of each member's contributions to the group. This assessment asks you to consider:

- The quality of each person's contribution,
- The quantity of each person's contribution, and
- The willingness of each person to participate as team member, including:
  - Being respectful and mindful of the schedules and other obligations of the group members,
  - Communicating openly with the group members,
  - Being responsible and accountable for meeting obligations, and
  - Carefully listening to and considering the input and opinions of the others.

The mechanism for your assessment is simply to allocate a fixed number of points (10 times the number of group members) among all group members including yourself. As one example, if you have 4 members in your group (so a total of 40 points to allocate) and if you perceived that all members contributed equally then you would give each group member, including yourself, 10 points. As a second example, if you have 3 members in your group (so a total of 30 points to allocate) and if one member missed meetings, did not meet their obligations, and was disrespectful to others then you give that person 4 points and give yourself and the third group member 13 points each.

You will email Dr. Paradise your point allocation by the due date. The professors will examine these scores and factor them into your final grade for this assignment.