

EPS170AC: Crossroads of Earth Resources and Society

Welcome to EPS and L&S 170AC. The goal of this discussion section is to:

- 1) Enhance the lecture material through discussion and writing.
- 2) Discuss current events related to the lectures
- 3) Digest the reading more fully with class presentations.
- 4) Help with research projects via class discussion and presentation.

The Discussion section is 25% of the course grade, which is broken down as:

5% for presentations

5% for writing assignments

15% for participation for class discussion

We will schedule the presentations on the first day of discussion and a short writing assignment will be given every week. Even though the discussion section is only 25% of the course grade, your performance in sections will make a difference in your final grade.

Guidelines for Class Presentations:

- 1) Make sure you are not the only one speaking at all times, be sure that everyone in your group is given time to speak.
- 2) Make it an open discussion forum, engage your classmates, ask questions, and give your opinion
- 3) You do not have to present every single thing that the author says, just the things you think are important and relevant (more of a synopsis). The rest of the class should have also read what you are presenting and should be ready to participate.
- 4) Although not required, you can incorporate current events or any other relevant material outside of lecture material to enhance discussion (i.e. UTube clips, news articles, a mini-display, etc.)
- 5) Think of it as more of a “book club,” with you leading the discussion for the week.

Writing Assignments: Please submit 1-2 paragraphs every week about a topic that captured your attention in lecture, film lab, or discussion. Sound your opinion and feel free to include relevant outside information including news articles, journals, or other media. People presenting the readings on a certain week will not be responsible for the writing assignment for that week.

We request respect and understanding for your classmates. Without those qualities we can't learn from each other and the discussion section becomes unproductive. We are a diverse community of experiences and ideas. If for any reason you feel you can't express your ideas openly, please bring the problem to our attention.