EBE Final Project: Paper and Presentation on current Ecological Issues

Part 1: Paper Prompt:

Assignment goes along with the reading of *Zodiac* by Neal Stephenson

Now that you have addressed the science related to your topic, your next goal is to put it in context, with the discussion of *Zodiac* as a reference point and model. For each of the contextual areas, first discuss how these areas applied to the environmental issues in the Boston Harbor in *Zodiac*, and then address how they fit with your selected topic in the current era.

**The contextual aspects to cover fall into several main categories:**

- Social (personal perspectives, media, etc)
- Governmental (regulatory, political, etc)
- Industrial (companies, factories, etc)
- Technological (as related to the science, solutions, etc)

**Well done papers will**:

* demonstrate understanding of the issues presented in the reading of *Zodiac*, and how they connect to these contextual topics in modern times

* make ample use of data

* make ample use of reliable sources as well as media articles as warranted, but carefully differentiate the two with use. You should have **at least 5 reliable sources (this can include science papers, websites from legitimate sources like NASA, etc) and at least 10 total.**

* use specific examples within each category (minimum 2) to support summation of the contextual aspect

* be written clearly, and will be informative, but present various perspectives (this is not a persuasive paper)

* include in text citations and a bibliography

* be approximately 5 pgs of double spaced writing at minimum, not including sources, to sufficiently address the content and connections. Be concise but be thorough. (I will stop reading after 10 pages, so don’t go overboard)

Part 2: Infographic

For your topic, create an infographic that would inform the public about the topic that you have chosen. For this part of the final project, focus on the scientific aspects.

- what is the biology/geography/ geology/chemistry of your topic?
- what is the cause of the topic’s impact (i.e. where does the carbon dioxide come from, etc)
- what is the impact of your topic on the local environment and biodiversity?
- how might we expect this impact to continue in the future?

The specifics to these rather general concepts will come from your research into your particular topic, so the exact questions might be altered to fit the topics themselves.

**Logistics:**

- visuals are a must
- bullet point type information
- data!
- in text citations (you can use the footnote type system) and a works cited
- these will be collected digitally. Powerpoint would be fine, as would any other sorts of infographic creation programs, like the ones I’ve shared
- You should have at least 5 reliable sources.
- if you are working with a partner, this portion can be completed and submitted together, 1 per group