

Final Project - Take Action

In EBE this semester we will be completing a final project with the goal of creating a solution to some of the issues that we have discussed this semester. This assignment is intended to be open-ended and used as a way to foster your creativity and collaboration.

Small group (2-3) or individual project:

For this project you will be assigned to create something that will contribute in some way to a positive solution for an ecological problem. Please be creative and make something that you are personally interested in doing. You will complete this assignment primarily on your own time outside of class, so please consider this when planning your project.

All projects must be thoroughly researched and include references.

***Note:** All projects must be approved by the instructor**

Ideas to get you started:

- Write a children's book about ecology, conservation, climate change, evolutionary history, etc.
- Write a graphic novel highlighting a conservation issue, a specific ecosystem, or the evolutionary history of an organism
- Record a PSA on a topic of interest (sign up for the green screen in advance with ITMC)
- Record a podcast about an issue related to a topic related to the course
- Write a persuasive letter (to a newspaper, congressperson, representative, etc.) (option to send the letter)
- Write a proposal for a project
- Independent research project (research the effectiveness of past or ongoing efforts (ie. in ecological restoration projects, conservation, sustainability, etc.); study grassroots movements, state or national efforts (ie. national parks, hunting programs, fisheries management, etc.). Research this topic in-depth and write a report on it's effectiveness and potential for the future. [report can be in the form of a scientific review paper, a popular science magazine article, a podcast, or any other format but must include detail and a thorough assessment of the subject researched.
- Any other idea you come up with - approved by your instructor.

Along with your project, you will write a reflection of your work, how you think it will contribute toward a solution, what else you would like to do along with this project if you had unlimited resources. Include a written bibliography of your resources in APA format. In-text citations are required for all written material.

Individual Project Checkpoints:

Week 1: Introduce the final project

Week 6: Submit a proposal of your ideas for your individual project to your instructor

Week 11: Rough outline and bibliography due

Week 14: Rough draft / script / tangible progress and updated bibliography due

Week 17: Class time to work on projects last chance for feedback

Finals week: Final Project due

Tips to stay on task:

- This project is intended to extend through the start to the end of the semester. Near the beginning of the semester you should be thinking of ideas, during the middle of the semester you should be continuously working toward completing the project. You will have to keep up with the checkpoints, but also keep yourself on task to make progress each week.
- Keep track of your references as you go! Keep a running bibliography from the start and add to it as you collect more references. In text citations - also keep track of these as you write. It's very hard to track down what information came from what source after you have been working.