

Assign 3 (Issue Brief)

This assignment is meant to prepare you to present your thoughts and arguments on an environmental issue in a concise manner. This is helpful in communicating to politicians at the local, state and federal levels. It is also helpful in conveying information in the various forms of the media (to different groups of people). This way, you do not only leave this class knowing the issues that face us, but you will also know how to confront them and get something done. Enough banter, here is the assignment: I would like you to write a short article (no more than 2 pages double spaced, font size 12, penalties apply) on an issue that “gets to you”. This assignment should be posted on the course discussion board under assignment 3 by 11 pm next Friday. You can write this article as if it is directed at a politician or a newspaper audience. It could be informational or a complaint in which you suggest solutions e.g. my issues include humongous receipts from Best Buy, junk mail, cops who leave their cars running at plant management, excessive packaging etc. I could see myself doing an article on each one of these issues (i.e. describing the problem and why you see it as a problem, its effects on the environment, whether there are any laws that could be used to enforce change, if yes, suggest better ways of enforcement, if not, suggest how you may be able to get something done about it). Remember you are only writing your article on one issue. I know that some of you may have issues with fat people who wear spandex or people who chew with their mouths open. However, unless you can demonstrate how these are environmental issues, leave them alone. I have saved three examples of what I am talking about in week 7 (from students from a separate class). Do not worry about citations for this write-up. Please see (or email) me if you have any questions.