

Grading Rubric for Final Project

Final Project due by _____

Email to _____

Late work is worth a maximum of half credit, unless discussed with instructors in advance.

(10 pts. each)

Delivery

1. Turned in as MS-Word document. Email attachment, with your last name in the file name. Example “lastname_module1.docx”
2. Length between 1000-1200 words (excluding figure legends). No more, no less.
3. Science news articles should have proper grammar and punctuation and follow the style guidelines posted on the Sakai site.

Content

4. The news article should make a clear claim based on a scientific data source.
5. Contextualize your clear claim by provided background research from other media claims or primary scientific literature.
6. The science news article should be defensible given the data you present (this can be data in the graphic or data you reference in the text).
7. Explain why these data are significant for the reader. Why should the reader care?

Graphics

8. Only one data graphic, which illustrates a main point in your Op-ed (these can be a multi-panel graphic if you wish).
9. The graphic should have clearly labeled axes and legends, and aesthetically pleasing.
10. The graphic should have a figure caption below the graphic that explains the graphic. Start your caption with a brief, explanatory title. The figure caption should stand on its own (not dependent on the text in your news article to understand it), and be less than 100 words.