

Book Review Presentation Instructions

Introduction: Environmental science is a broad subject encompassing many disciplines, cultures and philosophies. To achieve an appreciation for the literature pertaining to the subject, choose and read a book from the DU library, the public library, or a retail source that involves as the main theme an environmental issue, argument or concept. Create a presentation that interprets the book's message referencing our textbook as necessary. Include in your presentation a secondary source (this can be a TED talk, an interview you have carried out, a documentary, an article) that discusses the main topic of your chosen book, preferably an opposing viewpoint, and compare/contrast their message with your book's message; add your personal evaluation of the concept presented. Finally, summarize your work in a conclusion section that includes your appraisal of the issue(s) presented and a potential path forward to resolve any conflicts.



Assignment 2: Book Review Presentation. This assignment is due by the end of Week 6. Submit a PowerPoint Presentation that contains at least 18 slides. A narration is not required, but if you choose not to narrate, please include detailed speaker's notes (100 words per slide).

Presentation Outline

- Cover Slide (1 slide; name of book, author, course and presenter)
- Presentation Body (8-10 slides for discussion of the reviewed book and to summarize the main ideas presented therein)
 - Introduction Slides (2-3 slides):
 - Define the general topic, issue, or area of concern.
 - Identify overall trends, conflicts in theory, methodology, evidence, and conclusions, gaps in research/scholarship, or new perspectives.
 - Summarize the main points presented in the book (at least 6 slides)
 - What is the author's main message?
 - What supporting details are provided to substantiate the argument?
 - Does the main argument agree with the information in our textbook?
 - What is your evaluation of the argument?
- Discussion (at least 8 slides):
 - Present a counter argument (4-5 slides)
 - Identify a counter argument and defend why it exists
 - Discuss related principles, concepts, theories
 - What supporting details do the article/the author offer?
 - Establish the argument including both conflicting view points (4-5 slides)
 - Discuss the pros and cons of each perspective
 - Contrast with the information in our textbook
 - Provide a personal evaluation of the argument

- Conclusion (2-3 slides)
 - Summarize major contributions of the book, maintaining the focus established in the introduction.
 - Point out any major methodological flaws, gaps in research, inconsistencies in theory and findings you have found in the book and article.
 - Identify several courses of action that could address the environmental issue moving forward.
- References (At least 1 slide, minimum three entries: reference for book reviewed, secondary source reference, textbook reference; APA style)

Tips:

- Choose a book you know you will enjoy reading.
- Read actively and critically; take notes.
- Focus on summary and analysis.
- After each chapter, take brief notes. Summarize the major points of the chapter. Take note of passages that might be useful as quotes for the presentation.
- Evaluate the main point of each chapter and develop a personal reaction to it.
- The presentation's introduction should be clear and to the point.
- Concluding slides should wrap up the presentation and reinforce the introduction.
- Focus on making a few key points about the book or article.
- Develop an opinion of the main argument and counter argument; substantiate your position with facts and quotes from the source material.
- Slides should consist of talking points, highlights a presenter can use as reminders of the content detailed in the speaker notes. Generally, except for long, direct quotes, slides should not contain entire paragraphs.