

## CVEN 664 – Water Resources Planning and Management Emergent Issue Paper/Presentation Guidelines

- The case study project will be done in groups of 4-6 students (there will be 6 groups). Groups will be assigned by the instructor.
- Each group will prepare both a written paper and an in-class presentation on the chosen topic. Both items will be due on Tuesday, December 16, during the regularly scheduled exam period for the course – 8:00 to 10:00 AM. You should submit electronic and hard copies of both the paper and presentation.
- Written papers have no minimum or maximum length requirements. Each paper will be evaluated against the criteria listed on the evaluation form and should be complete with respect to these items. Appropriate use of citations and a bibliography is expected, and all papers are expected to conform fully to the letter and spirit of the TAMU Honor Code ([www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor](http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor)). Sloppy formatting, spelling and grammatical errors, etc., may be the basis for grade deductions if they are particularly distracting to the reader (item #6 of the evaluation criteria).
- All presentations should be 15 to 17 minutes long. **Do not exceed the time limit.** Practice your presentation beforehand to ensure timeliness.
- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation with relevant visual aids. A good guideline is to leave each slide on the screen for a minimum of 1 minute.
- All group members are expected to contribute equal amounts of effort towards the final product. If some members do not speak at the actual presentation and/or contribute to production of the written paper, prepare a slide listing what they did otherwise to compensate. Regardless of specific contribution, all group members are expected to be present at the final presentation unless they have university excused absences.
- Peer review of the presentations will be done in groups. That is, each presentation will receive 5 peer reviews, and each presentation group will prepare the review with all members contributing. Peer review forms are due to Dr. Brumbelow 24 hours after the presentations. Dr. Brumbelow alone will review the written papers.
- Grading of the project will be as follows:
  - Presentation 50% (*composed of items below*)
    - 5 Peer Evaluations @ 8% each 40%
    - 1 Instructor Evaluation 10%
  - Written Paper 50%

- The purpose of this project is for teams of students to expand your knowledge of water resources systems by intensive investigation on an “emergent” issue in the field, i.e., an issue that is beyond the course lecture content and is of intense interest in the field.
  - The first course project required you to apply systems thinking to understand a particular case study including all of its components, observers, models, etc. This project requires you to identify an important topic that is globally important, yet can be well illustrated with particular examples of how the issue is changing how current models are formulated. Thus, your project will be simultaneously more general and more specific in scope than the first project. (More on that definition in class...)
  - Good topics will have 3 important characteristics. They will be:
    - “New,”
    - “Important,” and
    - Not tied to a particular place.
  - Examples of topics that I think would be particularly good include:
    - Water Re-Use and its Impact on Water Resources Systems,
    - Emerging Pollutants,
    - Micro-development of Water Resources in Less Developed Countries,
    - Water Accountability Programs,
    - Deconstruction and Devolution of Water Resources Infrastructure,
    - Novel water legal regimes,
    - De-centralization of water infrastructure,
    - Development and maintenance of water resources systems under decreasing public funding,
    - Water-energy interdependencies, and
    - Sustainability rating programs vis-à-vis water resources.
  - As in the first project, you are expected to prepare your paper and presentation in the context of and building upon the course content. Thus, your knowledge of water resources objectives, legal doctrines, institutions, etc., should inform and influence your work.
  
- Topics should be submitted by e-mail for approval no later than Friday, November 14, but you are encouraged to begin before then.
  
- Whenever you send e-mail to Dr. Brumbelow regarding the project, please (i) cc all fellow group members, and (ii) include your group number. That allows me to “reply to all” to keep everyone informed and also helps me keep the group information well organized.

CVEN 664 – Water Resources Planning and Management  
Emergent Issue Presentations – Peer Review Form

Group presenting:

Presentation topic:

Provide a score for each question below. Low values indicate poor performance, and high values indicate excellent performance.

1. Was the presentation topic interesting and one that is new to the field of WRPM? (10 points)
  
2. Did the presentation adequately describe the source(s) or beginnings of the issue? (20 points)
  
3. Did the presentation adequately describe the current state of the issue and likely future trends? (20 points)
  
4. Was there a good balance between the general concepts of the issue and specific examples? (15 points)
  
5. Did the presentation make connections between the emergent issue and other topics studied throughout this course? (15 points)
  
6. Score the quality of the presentation delivery and visual aids. (20 points)

TOTAL SCORE (100 points): \_\_\_\_\_

*Please write on the back of the page which group is submitting this review*