ES 10 Extra Credit Individual Field Trip Project

This project is an opportunity to explore an environmental science topic of your choice. The project consists of four parts (up to 15 points for parts 2-4, for a maximum total of 45). Each part has its own due date; no late work will be accepted. Credit on part 3 requires that you earned some credit on part 2. Credit on part 4 requires that you earned some credit on part 3. You may earn extra credit for only one project – paper or field trip.

Part 1: Pick a Field Trip Destination. Provide a name and description of your destination. If your destination is not on the list below, make sure to get it approved by an instructor. Write a brief sentence or two about what you hope to learn or what topic attracted you to your destination. FIELD TRIP DESTINATION IS DUE MARCH 22.

Part 2: Visit your field trip destination and write a summary of an exhibit. Make a trip on your own time, with your own transportation, to one of the facilities listed below. Thoroughly explore the exhibit(s) related to an environmental science issue that interests you. To receive a maximum of 15 extra credit points, submit a detailed description of the exhibit(s) you visited. Discuss any technical challenges or issues involved in the display, as well as the benefits or desired outcome of the exhibit. FIELD TRIP SUMMARIES ARE DUE APRIL 19.

Part 3: Write a three-page paper explaining and discussing your topic. Write a detailed discussion of the environmental issue you explored on your field trip. Information should come primarily from the exhibit itself; no additional references are required (though you may certainly use them). Discuss the science involved, how/why this is an issue, and current or future problems and solutions. Avoid emotive statements – focus on the science instead. Papers must be typed in 12-point font and double-spaced. Include footnotes and bibliography on a fourth page. (Read the bottom of this sheet to understand how your paper will be graded). Use quotations only for dramatic or pithy statements; otherwise paraphrase. Do not plagiarize! All text should be your own words, not anyone else’s! (At Sue’s homepage, see the link with an example of how to rephrase material into your own words.) PAPERS ARE DUE MAY 10.

Part 4: Present a PowerPoint slide show to the class. Based on your paper, create PowerPoint slides that convey the key points you learned from your field trip. Slides may contain text, images, graphs, etc. Use a large font (size 20 or larger) and limit your slides to the main points that support your oral presentation. Avoid cluttering your slides with too much detail; the slides should be more of an outline that you fill in with your oral presentation. Time limits for presentations will be determined later, but are generally about 5-8 minutes. GIVE YOUR PRESENTATION IN CLASS MAY 24.

If you have any questions or difficulties regarding this project, please don’t hesitate to contact an instructor any other of the Cabrillo College resources. The Writing Center tutors are particularly helpful. We hope you learn a lot from your field trip and share it with the rest of us!

Grading Criteria for Written Materials
Your paper will be graded based on the following factors. A maximum of 5 points will be awarded for each category.

- **Technical Requirements**: fulfills required elements in terms of length, font size, etc.
- **Writing Level**: materials are well-organized, proof-read and appropriate for college level.
- **Content**: topic is appropriate and written material demonstrates a thorough understanding.

**Note**: All due dates are final; no late work will be accepted.

Possible Field Trip Locations:
- California Academy of Sciences (San Francisco)
- Monterey Bay Aquarium (Monterey)
- Long Marine Lab/Seymour Discovery Center (Santa Cruz)
- The Exploratorium (San Francisco)
- The Tech Museum (San Jose)