

Research Paper

You are required to write a paper on a specific, current issue regarding Environmental Science. The paper gives you a chance to explore in more detail one topic that is of interest to you and related to the class. The paper should be word-processed, 1.5 line spacing, 1-inch margins, with size 11 Times New Roman font, no spaces after paragraphs, and page numbers centered at bottom. The bibliography should include at least THREE scholarly references. You may include figures. The text of the paper should be 1200–1500 words. You should spend no more than one-half of the paper summarizing the issue and should emphasize analysis, synthesis, and interpretation of the issue.

The topic for this paper **MUST BE APPROVED**. Late papers **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**

Things to consider in the paper:

- a. Summarize the issue
 - i. What issue is being discussed?
 - ii. What is the impact on human society?
- b. Provide your analysis or synthesis, in terms of:
 - i. Why is it relevant to sustainability?
 - ii. What recommendation do you have regarding the issue?

It should be written as a cohesive essay with an intro, body and conclusion, not as a response to the above questions. Assessment will be based on content (demonstration of critical thinking skills) and presentation (demonstration of college level writing).

Have someone else proof read your paper before submitting it.

General Advice

Avoid saying “I think...”

Avoid using “seems” or other noncommittal phrases.

Avoid using slang, jargon, or **contractions**.

References should be listed alphabetically.

Print references should include: 1) author, 2) publication date, 3) title, 4) publisher, and 5) city of publication.

Internet references: 1) author, 2) publication date or last revision 3) title, 4) date of access, and 5) URL.

References

Carson, R. 1962. *Silent Spring*. Riverside Press, Cambridge, MA.

Revkin, A.C. Aug. 17, 2004. Save the Whales! Then What? The New York Times. Retrieved Sept. 7, 2004 from www.nytimes.com/2004/08/17/science/17whale.html?ex=1094702400&en=1068a132c3f23a6e&ei=5070

Citations in the paper should include the author and publication date. Direct quotes should include page #:

“The situation is made even more complicated by the fact that one chemical may act on another to alter its effect” (Carson 1962, p. 238).

Regarding in text citations, keep in mind the reasons behind citing: 1) give credit where it is due (avoid plagiarism!), 2) give your comments legitimacy—you are indicating that the information you are presenting came from what you considered a reliable source, and 3) lead your reader to the source if they want to discover more.