Systems Thinking for Sustainability EnvirSt 402/Agronomy 375

## Midterm Group Presentation Assignment

(175 points - Due in class on Tuesday, Nov. 20)

Work in a group of 4-5 peers to develop and deliver a professional 4-5 slide, 5 minute presentation about a system.

What systems can you present?

Working together, your group should choose one of the systems we have discussed or that one of you have written about in your journal. You should restrict yourself to one system.

What should be in the presentation?

Your presentation should:

- describe and name the system
- explain how you chose the boundary for your analysis/description of the system
- describe althernative ways you could have bounded the system and why you selected the system boundary as above
- give a detailed, well-researched and appropriately cited description of the dynamic (i.e. changing over some dimension) relationships among at least some of the parts in the system. This can be quantitative or qualitative, as appropriate for the system in question
- explain what your analysis/description of the system can do, or is good for
- explain some things that your analysis/description of the system probably can't do or is not good for
- use images and visual descriptions; most of the words should be in your verbal commentary, not on the slides

## Who must present?

Everyone in your group must participate in the presentation. We encourage you to practice, with a timer, several times before you make the presentation to class.

How will the presentation be graded (out of 175 points)?

Outstanding Presentation (-0 points)	The presentation tells a coherent, visually and
	intellectually engaging story about the system
	you have chosen that leaves the viewer
	significantly more informed and curious about
	the system and its behavior than they were
	before. The sources of information are
	reputable and clearly documented. All of the
	presenters speak clearly and knowledgably
	about their topic with no hesitation or verbal
	stumbles.

Good Presentation (-25 points)	The presentation tells a coherent, visually and intellectually engaging story about the system you have chosen that leaves the viewer somewhat more informed or curious about the system and its behavior than they were before. The sources of information are clearly documented. All of the presenters speak clearly and knowledgably about their topic with only occasional verbal stumbles or hesitation.
Adequate Presentation (-50 points)	The presentation tells a story about the system you have chosen that is occasionally visually and/or intellectually engaging, and that leaves the viewer informed and/or curious about the system and its behavior. There may be a few obvious gaps in the system description. Most of the sources of information for the presentation are clearly documented. Most of the presenters speak clearly and knowledgably about their topic, but with a few minor stumbles that detract a little from the presentation.
Unsatisfactory Presentation (-75 points)	The presentation tells a story about the system you have chosen that has some significant gaps in content. Alternatively, there may be sufficient content, but the presentation does not tell the system story in a way that generates curiosity or engagement. Some sources of information for the presentation are poorly documented or unclear. Some presenters are un-prepared or underprepared for their presentations.
Non-participant (0 points)	No contribution to your team's presentation