All students are required to submit short weekly assignments. This requirement keeps you connected to the course, reinforcing readings and opening up opportunities to pursue topics of interest. Each week you have the option of submitting a summary of the readings or lectures in addition to submitting a question (multiple choice or short answer) along with the correct answer as fulfilling your weekly requirement. Alternatively, you can do a web based search of topics we assign. We require you to list the web links you use and to provide a brief description/summary of your research as documentation that you have actually learned something.


A complete list of the web assignments will be available on the class web site. Sample assignments are listed below:

A. CONSERVATION ~ Find out about John Muir. What issues did he care about, and how did he act on them? Why are his accomplishments still important to us today?
   http://www.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/index.html

B. CURRENT EVENTS ~ The United Nations Development Programme just reported results of an international survey. The survey ranks countries on various indicators. Find your home country’s ranking for several political, economic, corruption and sustainability environmental indicators.
   http://www.undp.org
   http://worldbank.org/data/countrydata/countrydata.html
   http://memory.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html
   http://csf.colorado.edu/isee

C. AIR POLLUTION ~ Find your home town and report the sources of toxic air pollution released. How does your country or state rank? Learn about the health risks.
   http://www.scorecard.org/
   http://www.epa.gov/air/data/index.html

D. WATER POLLUTION ~ What are the water resources in your state?
   http://www.epa.gov/surf3/locate

E. ENERGY ~ What is the million solar roofs program? Describe the technologies available for solar collection.
   http://www.eren.doe.gov

F. WASTE ~ Define “environmental justice” and the implications for minority health
   http://ehis.niehs.nih.gov/topic/minority.html

G. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND DEVELOPMENT ~ Calculate your “ecological footprint.”
   http://www.lead.org/leadnet/footprint/intro.htm