

Semester Project Guidelines
Objective Analysis in the Atmospheric and Related Sciences
AT 529: Fall 2007

Purpose of the Semester Project

To demonstrate effective mastery of one or more of the statistical techniques presented in the course applied to a student's particular research interests. Projects that related directly to a student's thesis or dissertation research are especially encouraged. The semester project will be worth 30% of the total course grade.

Part I: Oral Presentation (30% of Project Grade)

There are three class periods (outlined on the course webpage) which will be devoted to class presentations. Each presentation should be approximately 10-12 minutes in length, with an additional three minutes for questions. Presentations should preferably be in Powerpoint format and these will be archive to the course website. *Since it is a large class, the time limit on presentations will be enforced—and your grade may be adversely affected if you go significantly over this time. Unless individuals have appropriate and excusable schedule conflicts, the order of presentations will be randomly chosen.*

For an idealized presentation format I suggest: 1) Presentation outline, 2) Introduction which includes the scientific motivation for the study, 3) Description of analysis methods used, 4) Presentation of results and physical interpretation, and 5) Summary. Presentations will be evaluated with respect to these elements and presentation style and clarity.

Part II: Term Project Paper (70% of Project Grade)

The term project paper should follow the same general format outline as the presentation. The manuscript should be approximately 8 – 16 pages in length, including title page, text, references, figures, and tables and use either AMS or AGU formatting for journal manuscript submission. For example, this means double spacing and figures and tables at the end of the manuscript. Manuscripts will be evaluated in a similar manner to the presentation. *Keep in mind that since it is a class project, more weight will be given to demonstrating that you understand the statistical methods and have applied them appropriately to your project (element #3) rather than coming up with interesting and potentially publishable results. But if you can effectively do both that's great!*

Due Dates

Project titles: Monday, Nov. 19th
(Please hand in as a paper copy in class or to my box—no emails!)

Project presentations: Friday, Nov 30th; Monday, Dec. 3rd; Wed, Dec. 5th

Term manuscripts: Friday, Dec. 7th