

CLASS PROJECT:

You will prepare a professional document in which you propose a solution for an environmental concern related to soil and/or water management. You have four different formats in which you may conduct your report/proposal. Choose one:

- a research proposal written to a scientific granting agency (NSF format)
- a bid for a commercial service
- an interactive computer model
- an Extension bulletin publication

A proposal for your project (or a pre-proposal in the case of option 1) is due on October 9th. The proposal consists of a literature review (no less than 5 peer-reviewed articles summarizing the problem/concern), a summary outlining your project objectives, an overview of what you propose to deliver, and who it will most benefit and how it will benefit them. This proposal should be at least 2 but not more than 5 pages (single-spaced, 12-point Arial font). The full project should be 8-10 pages (single-spaced 12-point Arial font), with graphs and other figures to facilitate an understanding of your topic. In the case of the computer model, the model must predict some soil-related phenomenon. It must work and be fully interactive. It must use equations that are based on sound scientific research conducted in a wide variety of environments. You must convince me that you wrote it yourself.

The project is due by 5pm November 20th in my office.

You must make at least one appointment to meet with me prior to Oct. 9 to discuss your project proposal. Then you must meet with me at least one time before you turn in the project to assess your progress.

During the week of November 27th, we will have a 'show & tell' where each student will present their project to the class.

There is some flexibility in project format and topic, so if there is something that you are particularly interested in trying, please see me. Please select a topic that you enjoy spending time researching!