Vertebrate Biology
Team Presentation Guidelines

You will work together in teams of two to research and present on a specific research topic in vertebrate biology. The presentation is expected to be a 12-15 minute power point presentation with a 3 minute question and answer period.

Both members of the team must participate in topic selection, project design, research, construction of the presentation, and delivery of the presentation.

The Topic:
The topic should involve an area of research in vertebrate biology. This does not include a simple descriptive presentation on your favorite vertebrate. Choose a topic that is of appropriate scope for a 12-15 minute talk. All topics must be approved by the professor prior to project research.

The Research:
You are encouraged to use both printed and web-based literature for your topic. All studies should have some references to original research (primary literature). A reference sheet for each presentation should be presented in proper format and handed out the class separately from the presentation.

The Presentation:
You are required to make this presentation in Power Point format. If you are unfamiliar with this software please see the professor and work out a training opportunity. Do NOT wait until late in the semester. Access to scanners and photo shop software are available to students in the media center on the second floor of the library.

The presentation should introduce the topic (including background), describe the studies and their results that inform us about the topic, include any necessary commentary (e.g. significance, etc.), and summarize the findings. The presentation should last 15 minutes.

The Evaluation:
Evaluation will consist of two components, peer evaluation of effort and the presentation. Peer evaluation of each presentation will be conducted by all members of the class excluding the presenters. This will include overall evaluation of the project as well as individual evaluations of the presenters. The final grade will take into consideration all of the peer evaluation input and be adjusted based on the professors expert evaluation. Please see handouts for details on the specific qualities that will be evaluated in each presentation.

A second component includes evaluation of team members. This allows the professor to identify cases where most of the work was down by one individual and not the other. So pitch in and work.