

ATOC 3500/CHEM 3151

Instructions for Semester Projects

1. Identify a recent topic that somehow involves atmospheric chemistry at some level (e.g., is about air quality, the effects of a change in composition, or how some activity might have an impact on the chemistry of the atmosphere in some way).
2. Research the main points of the topic. It is important that you use more than just the original source that initially caught your interest. A good number of additional sources is three or more. These could be journal articles, opinion pieces, or information compiled on various websites. The idea is to get some idea of the various ways in which the problem is addressed, rather than just one viewpoint of the original author of the article.
3. Develop a series of 'main points' (e.g., like an outline for a summary paper) that can be handed out in class on a single sheet of paper. These points should include a brief summary of the topic (one or two sentences), the main principles from this class that are relevant to the topic, and some general thoughts on various aspects of the problem – who the stakeholders are, whether the problem is local, regional, or global in nature, what the ethical, economic and social implications might be, etc.
4. Be ready to briefly discuss your main points in class as early as April 3. You won't necessarily need to speak in front of the class – from a seat is ok. I will hand out copies of your single sheet of points.
5. Following this initial class discussion, you will create a "presentation" of some sort that will be posted the last week of classes.