Final Project Submissions

We've been getting some questions about the format for final projects, and have conferred with specific groups. But especially for those who have not been in touch about their particular format, we wish to provide some general guidelines.

Anything we have said to you in person or over e-mail may override these general instructions.

Your project must be submitted **over Blackboard.** (Even for presentations that are websites, we still want a blackboard submission of the link–see below).

If it is a paper-based form such as a poster or a paper with pictures, you should submit it as a PDF.

If it is largely web based, you may submit a PDF (or some other *single file*) that includes a link to the URL of the website you have made. You could also try to bundle the website itself into a zipfile rather than posting it online; if you do this, you should test the thing you submit on *someone else's* computer to make sure that you're sending something that we can read. All things told, it's probably better to link to a site on the Internet than to try to send html directly.

If it is some hybrid form where you wish to submit multiple files (for example, a set of shapefiles you have made in QGIS and an accompanying paper), you should put the various items in a folder, zip it, and upload the zipfile as your submission. Try to arrange this folder, though, in a way that its obvious where you want us to start reading.

Taking credit for work

The first page of what we read must clearly identify all the authors of the project. If you are working as a group, you should somewhere in the project (not necessarily on the front page) provide some accounting of who did what work on the project.

Text vs images

As we have said many times, you can think of this project under the model of a poster presentation; they tend to have a few pages worth of text and several images that demonstrate the outcome of a research project in ways that communicate it effectively, lay out steps for future work, and the like.

If you include images, you must have text describing and interpreting them. This can be in a standard form (such as a paper with figures) or might be more split (a link to a website, and then a separate writeup).

You may also choose to include some *procedural notes* on the project. This would be an appropriate place to discuss challenges in data collection, division of labor among a group, or notes on similar projects that have influenced you.