

## FIRST GROUP PRESENTATION ASSIGNMENT

For your first group presentation, I would like you present a phenomena to be modeled and some hypotheses that you would like to test about that phenomena. That is, I would like you to complete the first two steps in the modeling cycle described in chapter 1 of Railsback and Grimm. For the *next* group presentation, I would like you to outline the model. But, you don't need to do that for *this* presentation.

Your problem can come from anywhere, so long as it involves some sort of social interaction. It can be human, animal, plant, bacteria, or even computer. But, it must involve social interaction, and it must be something sufficiently narrow that it can be modeled.

In groups, I will have you present the situation with the other group members. The presentation doesn't need to be extremely formal, but remember you are preparing for a class presentation so don't just wing it either. In your group presentation you need to be able to answer the following questions. As a group member you should try to be critical (politely) with the other members, try to find ways that they may have failed to answer the questions or done so in a vague way. This will ultimately make the presentations better and also will make you better at being critical of your own work.

Questions:

1. What is the phenomena of interest?
  1. Who are involved?
  2. How are they interacting?
2. What are the hypotheses of interest?
3. Is this a phenomena that *can* be modeled?
4. What are some basic ideas about how the model might look (not much detail is required)?

Each group member has 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion. You can use this however you like, but remember you will have to give an in-class presentation later.

After the presentation and discussion everyone will fill out evaluations. The “audience” will evaluate the presentation and the presenter will evaluate the contributions of each group member. You are being graded on both, so be sure you are both a good audience member and presenter.

Also following the group presentation you will prepare a brief written report that will be graded by me. It is due one week after the group presentation.