

## Environmental Biology Civic Engagement Project and Presentation

**Background Information:** This particular section of Environmental Biology provides an opportunity for you to become active participants in service to your community, while at the same time learning collaboratively about the environmental and sustainability needs you will encounter, by engaging in active-learning techniques designed to make your learning experience fresh, exciting, and hands-on (based on the cutting-edge **SENCER method** – [www.sencernet.org](http://www.sencernet.org) for student engagement and learning).

The Civic Engagement Project is a *demonstration of your learning* in this class and is an essential component for a SENCER class. I encourage creativity in these projects (song you composed, poetry you wrote, photographs you took, drawings you made, etc.), but they must *demonstrate your learning*. You must use your service-learning time as part of your final project by explaining how the service *relates to topics covered in this course and to what you have learned in this course*. For this project:

- 1) You will engage the community and converse with the location's representative(s). Together, you will submit a proposal to me that lists what you will accomplish as a group, individual group member tasks, and the dates of service to be performed. *If this proposal is not submitted on-time, your group will receive a 0% for the entire project.*
- 2) You will each perform 5 hours of service-learning at one of the 4 locations listed below. You will work in teams of 4-5 students. It will be your responsibility to contact the agency representatives, complete the necessary hours on location, and provide written/signed documentation of your time spent (visit <http://www.fgcu.edu/connect/> for necessary paperwork and criteria).
- 3) You will present your project to the class as a group and explain how it demonstrates what you have learned. You will have 5-6 minutes per group to complete your presentation.
- 4) Lastly, you will be writing an individual reflection report on how the project relates to what you have learned. The paper is 500 words minimum and is due on the same day as the presentation. You will need to submit your written summary into the proper ANGEL dropbox.

**Note:** The proposal, service-learning time, group oral presentation, and individual written reflection report are worth 30% of your final grade in this course.

### Due dates:

**October 18, 2011 by 8:00AM: Written project proposal** due in ANGEL Dropbox that addresses task #1 above. I urge you to complete this well in advance of this deadline and get started on the civic engagement hours.

**November 29, 2011 by 8:00AM: Oral presentation** in class; **Written reflection report** submitted to ANGEL dropbox)

### Locations where our class will be working:

- 1) CREW
- 2) Bonita Nature Place
- 3) Audubon's Panther Island Mitigation Preserve
- 4) FGCU Campus

