

<p>Tropical Ecology <i>Topics for presentations and papers</i></p>
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In this class, 20% of your final grade will be based on an individual presentation and paper that you will write about some aspect of Australian ecology, culture, or history. The presentations will be integrated into the lecture schedule at appropriate times. Your presentation should be about 10 minutes long and must be accompanied by an outline which you will hand out to the class. The outline should not be more than one page long and should summarize the important points of your talk and define any unusual words. The paper (minimum eight pages) will be due on the day of the final exam. It should include information from a variety of sources including books, journals, and Internet articles.

You will choose your topic before class on February 3rd. You may select a topic from the following list, or you may come up with one of your own. Come to class with several potential topics in mind, in case someone else takes your favorite topic before you get the chance.

ECOLOGY, PLANTS, AND ANIMALS

El Nino's effects on Australia
 Ecotourism in Australia
 Eucalyptus
 Proteas
 Acacias
 Crown of thorns starfish
 Giant clams
 Cone shells
 Blue-ringed octopus
 Australian sharks
 Sea snakes
 Sea turtles
 Cassowary
 Kookaburra
 Emus

Platypus
 Echindna
 Koala
 Large macropods
 Small macropods
 Dingo
 European rabbit
 Flying fox
 Geckos
 Monitor lizards
 Australian snakes
 Saltwater crocodiles
 Cane toads

HISTORY, CULTURE, MISCELLANEOUS

Botany Bay
 Origin of the aboriginal people
 Aboriginal art
 Aboriginal society and culture
 Aboriginal rights
 Australian government
 Captain Cook's voyages
 European exploration
 Kangaroo harvesting
 Australian insect-borne diseases
 Opals
 Australia in WWII
 Australian literature
 Jet lag