

## **Presentations**

Review the list of invasive species at <https://nyis.info/species-information/>. As a team, choose one that you are interested in exploring this semester. This will be the species that you will complete 3 presentations on. All presentations are to be completed as a TEAM. They should be approximately 8-10 minutes. They must include at least 1 citation from the primary literature.

### Presentation 1:

- Give an overview of your local invasive species in its natural range and information on the invasion history in Oneonta
- Describe how it has disrupted an ecosystem-level processes (e.g. energy flow, carbon cycling, etc.)
  - Specifics should include how the processes should work and how the invasive species alters the process

### Presentation 2:

- Research in Biology- as a team, find a primary research article about your invasive species that you will use for this presentation. Make sure to include the following:
  1. What question(s) did the study address?
  2. Why did the authors decide the question(s) was/were relevant? In other words, why is study important? What gap in knowledge/unknown does it help us better understand?
  3. How did they do it? (**Briefly and as simply as possible**, explain what they did. Try to avoid using jargon or going into specific methodological details.)
  4. What did they find (must include at least one important graph from the paper and describe the findings)?
  5. What is their overall conclusion as it relates to their original question(s).

### Presentation 3:

- Solutions- Reintroduce the invasive species (briefly) and discuss at least 2 possible solutions to control the invasive species. Make sure to include the pros and cons of all potential solutions.

### Grading

Each of the presentations will receive a grade based on the collaborative rubric. Each student will be evaluated based on the oral presentation and the written materials (powerpoints). Because the presentations are supposed to be completed as a joint effort of all teammates, everyone should contribute equally to produce quality work. To ensure equal contribution, we will use the contribution index to calculate final scores (see info on the Contribution Index below).

To evaluate the level of contribution of each team member, everyone will be asked to fill out a **contribution index** form for these team presentations. Final grades for these assignments will be adjusted using the index.

[View the contribution index form here.](#)

**How the contribution index works**

For each team member an average rating will be calculated based on self and team ratings across 5 categories of contribution. An overall average rating for the team (average of all team member ratings) will also be calculated. The contribution index is calculated by creating a ratio of the two calculations (team member's average rating to the overall team average). The index is then used as a multiplier on the final points awarded for the assignment.

If an individual contributes more than an average amount for their group, the ratio could exceed 1.0 and the mark for the assignment will increase. If an individual contributes less than an average amount for their group, the ratio would be  $<1.0$  and the mark for their assignment will decrease.

Thus it is possible, using this index, for a student to score  $>100\%$  for an assignment and if this occurs, the student will be credited with  $>100\%$  for this component of the course (i.e. they will receive more than the 'maximum' number of points attainable for this assignment). This is capped at 1.1 or up to 10% extra points.