

## **GE 509: Final Project Report**

**Due May 5<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM (before the start of the Final Exam)**

### **Submit as a PDF document**

The final report for your semester project should be written in the style of a scholarly publication. However, since the emphasis of the class project was on developing a statistical model there should be greater emphasis on the statistical methods and results than in an average peer reviewed article. Similarly, the introduction and discussion do not require the full detail of a scholarly publication, but it IS imperative that the introduction lay out a scientific hypothesis or hypotheses that the analysis aims to answer, and that the discussion focuses on the biological significance not the statistical methods. That said, a discussion of next steps you may have for your model would be appropriate to include in the Discussion if you feel your analysis requires further refinement before publication. The introduction, methods, and discussion should all include citations as needed to support statements that are not common knowledge in your field.

The specific format we will be using for the Final Project is based on the Author Guidelines for the journal Ecology Letters. Papers should be a maximum of 5000 words in length and many of the projects in the class will be considerably shorter. While there is not a minimum word limit, papers should be long enough to reflect that this was a semester long project not a lab report. For details on these guidelines please refer to: <http://www.wiley.com/bw/submit.asp?ref=1461-023X&site=1>

A brief summary of these guidelines are as follows. If any guidelines below differ from the Author's Guidelines you should follow those given here.

Maximum of 5000 words, 6 figures or tables, and 50 references

Manuscript should be in the following order:

- Title page (include co-authors as appropriate)
- Abstract (150 words max)
- Introduction
- Materials and Methods

- Results
- Discussion
- Acknowledgements
- References

Figures and Tables can either be in the main text or after the References. All Figures and Tables should have captions that are sufficiently detailed that the figure/table can stand alone.

Text should be double spaced. Both pages and lines should be numbered

“Online Supplemental” documents are permitted for things like convergence diagnostics, supplemental figures and tables, code, and data. However, the main text should be able to stand alone without these.

Publication / Presentation: If the analysis from your class project is submitted for publication, included in your thesis/dissertation, or presented at a meeting (poster or talk) PLEASE let Mike know.