

## **GEOGRAPHY 4811 — RURAL GEOGRAPHY**

### **Evaluation of oral presentation**

You should speak for a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 25 (you will be cut off if you go on longer!) not counting any time taken by general discussion. You will be graded for:

**Quality of presentation:** How well you speak – clearly, not too many meaningless interjections (“like”; “you know” etc) and without the voice rising at the end of every sentence. Face the class and make frequent eye-contact (to check that everyone is still awake). Do not keep talking while facing the screen. Make sure you are not talking too fast – it is better to say less but ensure that everyone can follow you.

**Use of visual aids:** All papers will need these, especially if there are maps, tables, diagrams or illustrations that will help understanding. Use of PowerPoint is fine but not necessary: ordinary overheads are quite acceptable. You should have the title and author of the paper being critiqued and the main headings of your presentation on the screen. Do *not* put everything you have to say on the screen and then read it off. Keep your visual points short and expand on them as you talk. If you really need a longer quote on the screen, leave it for the class to read.

Feel free to add your own visual aids if you think they will help (eg a general location map of the area under discussion).

**Content:** Are the significant points in the paper got across clearly to the class? Did you miss (or misunderstand) any important points? Do not try to summarise *everything*: the critical task is to pick out what really matters. This is where a brief summary on overhead can help. Do not go into details of statistical tests or mathematical models.

**Evaluation:** Do you have something meaningful to say about the paper – how the research could have been done better; how the data could have been better presented?

**Questions:** Did you come up with a useful set of questions that should have started a good discussion (even if they did not).

## Evaluation of written critique

These should be 2-3 pages (500-750 words) long. Somewhat longer critiques of longer or more complicated papers will be accepted; shorter ones than two pages are unlikely to be found satisfactory. Grading is similar to that for the oral presentation (in this instance poor presentation – sloppy production and lots of spelling/typing errors – will lose marks). Use the following subheadings:

**Definition of problem**

**Explanation of methods**

**Discussion of findings**

**Conclusions**

**Evaluation**

*In both cases use of the Kariel guide as a template is strongly advised.*