

Blog Assignment for the 2019 Impacts of Climate Change on the Pacific Northwest Workshop

We have selected three topics for you to explore:

- The **geology group** will look at deriving [microtopography](#) from TLS data and how that compares to aerial LiDAR data. Microtopography is a critical component of the landscape related to wetland function (one of the workshops guest presenters, [Dr. Halabisky](#) from the UW will be discussing this, also see [this](#) paper).
- The **ecology group** will focus on [solar insolation](#) (shading) derived from terrestrial and aerial LiDAR and how such knowledge is important to understand other ecosystem functions such as stream cooling; see [this](#) paper.
- The **human issues group** will use aerial and terrestrial LiDAR to develop a 'forest bathing' index (you will learn more about [this](#) on the UW arboretum tour) for the trail network in Pack Forest.

Each team will post blog essays illustrated with pictures and short videos to the course website, discussing and documenting their experience from the perspective that their team is focused on, but also connecting the perspective to the other two teams. These should utilize graphic elements that you create in support of your story such as pictures, videos and maps. If you are interested in seeing examples of UW student workshop based blogs, [here](#) is a recent one from the College of the Environment, and the initial blog posts for this workshop are [here](#).

For example: when we are at Mount Rainier, the geology team can discuss volcanic eruptions in the PNW and the impacts on the ecology and humans in the region. The ecology team can discuss riparian forest and function and how these are driven by geology and impact humans (water quality, dam safety). The human issues team can discuss social trails in relations to geological features (human safety) and impact on ecological biodiversity.

Your team will be posting 4 of these blog posts (12 total):

- 1 from Pack Forest by Mount Rainier
- 1 from ONRC on the Olympic Peninsula
- 1 from University of Washington Campus in Seattle
- 1 final post once back in Nanjing. We want you to do the 4th and final blog post after you return home. Take 3-5 days to reflect on your excursion and the things you learned. Now compare these to climate change issues in Nanjing, how are these the same (?), how are these different (?), are the solutions being applied to these issues similar? For example: is urban canopy cover same or different between Nanjing and Seattle, and what are the policies behind this, how are these serving the populations of these two cities, can these be improved by learning from each other? You can use pictures from Nanjing to demonstrate your point.

You should be aware that these will be viewed by the UW/SEFS Communications Office and might be used for news stories or to provide information on the workshop to other media outlets. The workshop assistant (Jonathan Batchelor, a PhD students in UW/SEFS/PFC/RSGAL) will assist with final edits of these posts, you do not need to edit or commentate the short videos (if you are using videos in your blog).

Each Blog post will be worth 10 points

Grading Rubric for the Blog Assignment for the 2019 Impacts of Climate Change on the Pacific Northwest Workshop

Element	Full Points	Possible Point Deductions
Length (2 points)	The Blog posts should be a 3 to 5 minute read. This is about 500 words. A little less or little more is fine. What is most important is the blog has a good flow and is engaging.	If the blog is significantly less than 500 words or if the blog has a lot of filler in it to make up the length that doesn't add to a compelling narrative.
Visuals (2 points)	Photos and video are high quality and are relevant to the writing in the blog. As an absolute minimum include 2 photos and a video with every blog post. More is better. Figures such as maps or other created graphics are encouraged as well.	Photos or figures seem out of place or are low quality. Also, it is possible to have too many pictures and videos. You want to balance the text with the visuals.
Topic Relevance (3 points)	The topic of the blog post is fitting with the overall group topic and information relevant to the most recently visited sites is presented. Some external research may be required. Citing guest lecturers and including brief clips of discussions can increase the relevance of the blog post.	The post doesn't reference the most recent stops from the class or the only information is very generic and could have gotten entirely from other online sources. There needs to be a personalization of the blog post as you share your experience.
Style (1 point)	There is good flow in the blog post. We will help with editing the grammar and punctuation but paragraph topics should fit with each other to tell a cohesive story.	Topics are erratic with sentences and paragraphs not connected well.
Relating to other topics (1 point)	Some mention of the other 2 workshop topics in your blog with how the topics are interrelated. Including <u>links</u> to other websites or previous blog posts to draw connections is helpful.	There is little to no mention of the other workshop topics and no links to other websites or sources.
Participation (1 point)	All members of a group need to be contributing to the blog posts. Credit the photos and video with who took them and share the writing responsibilities for content.	The blog seems to be created by only one or two members of the group. If larger group participation is a problem, please let us know.