

Professor Barbara Midence

Fundamentals of Speech Communication (Speech 1017)

ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS

Informative Speech

According to the Environmentally Endangered Lands Department of Miami-Dade County, “Environmentally Endangered Lands contain natural forest, wetland or native plant communities, rare and endangered plants and animals, endemic species, endangered species habitat, a diversity of species, outstanding geologic or other natural features, or land which functions as an integral and sustaining component of an existing ecosystem.” Miami-Dade County has eight unique ecosystems: Biscayne Bay, Coastal Ecosystem (Beach and Dune, coastal Strand, Maritime Hammock), Coastal Wetlands (Salt Marshes and Mangrove Wetlands), Coral Reefs, Freshwater Wetlands, Pine Rocklands, Scrub and Tropical Hardwood Hammocks. National and State parks throughout Miami-Dade County, as well as attractions such as Matheson Hammock, and the Deering Estate provide opportunities to visit, study and enjoy these unique ecosystems.

Each student is required to prepare and present a 4-5 minute, informative speech on a specific example of one of the above ecosystems. In addition to a general overview of the type of ecosystem and its importance and function in our overall environment, be sure to include information on the historical and environmental significance and on current efforts to protect and restore the specific example or site chosen. Although a visit to the example site is not required, it is highly recommended and extra credit is given for a personal visit. A maximum of five PowerPoint slides may be used as a visual aid to emphasize the main points of the presentation for additional extra credit. (If a PowerPoint visual aid is included, the speech may be an addition 30 seconds long.)

The components of this assignment will be

Research Brief	25 points
Formal Outline	50 points
Presentation	50 points
PowerPoint	25 points
Visit to site	50 points (admission ticket required as proof)