

## **General Expectations for Your Final Product:**

You will be graded on your level of inquiry and on your ability to use rationality to test a natural phenomenon. This is a grade based on how well you think. It will be subjective, so your level of communication is vital to how you will be graded. If you lack clear communication that explains how your research, group discussions, and personal knowledge led you to your conclusions, and if you cannot clearly explain why you and your group made the choices you made, then you limit my ability to evaluate your work.

## **A Comment on Grading**

I will try my best to explain my frame of thought when I am grading work that requires you to craft a response. These products are ones that you usually have to create in some form or fashion.

Because these responses (which could be projects, essays, reflections, presentations, answers to questions) require creativity and wit, the ability to produce an objective numbered grade from the work you offer is difficult. Therefore, some of the grading does get subjective, hence I may offer rubrics for these assignments. Getting an “A” for a project that requires creativity and wit requires the product to be excellent in all the criteria. This is hard, but getting an “A” should be hard, or else the “A” would not be reflective of excellent work. So, while not impossible, you will be required to work very hard to get an “A.”

If you do enough work to meet all the requirements, that is good, but it is also average and falls in the high B range. If you miss some requirements your grade will fall to the low B or C range. “A” quality work has to be awarded to products that demonstrate a student going above and beyond the requirements. “A” quality work has to be reserved for truly excellent work, or we will lose the ability to recognize and celebrate truly excellent work. These products are the ones that give us pause, make us reflect, foster

insight about a topic, or show us new insights to our current way of thinking. “A” products cannot just be about informing, but must also be about providing an enriching experience.

Work hard, think outside the box, and take risks. If you commit to this type of production, then you may produce some really good work. However, the risk is that such production can produce some really bad work. I would argue that such production is fulfilling. So, work hard to hopefully have a fulfilling experience.