

JMars Research Project Guidelines

TOPICS: Mars or the Moon (because these are currently the only planets with multiple datasets available in JMars). Will consider other planets depending on the project.

FORMAT

- 10% of grade (10 points)
- Proposal counts for 2 pts, so if you haven't turned it in already, can still do so before 5pm tomorrow (Friday Aug. 16)
 - Proposal Format:
 - 1 or 2 subjects of interest
 - ≥ 2 sources of information on each subject (journal articles, textbooks, websites, etc.)
 - Abstract (brief summary of your planned project, for one subject), which should include:
 - What question you are asking
 - Why it is important/significant/intriguing (scientific context)
 - How you will go about answering it (which datasets you plan to use, etc.)
- No written report necessary, just a set of PowerPoint (or equivalent) slides, presented to the class on Thurs. Aug. 22 (2:30-4:30)
- One required item is a list of references or citations for any source material you used – this can be included on a PPT slide or emailed to me separately
- Plan on a 7 minute presentation (approx 5-7 slides, not including refs or title)
 - Allowing 5 minutes for questions, 9 presentations will take about 2 hrs

GRADING CRITERIA

- 2 pts Proposal
- 5 pts Research (effort, depth, effective use of multiple datasets)
- 3 pts Presentation
 - Clarity
 - Organization (logical order: e.g. background, question, approach, results)
 - Motivation (why you chose that particular topic/question and approach)

MISCELLANEOUS POINTS

- **Practice your talk** at least once before Thursday! (Twice is twice as beneficial). It's very hard to estimate how long it will take otherwise, and we'll be tight for time. But more importantly, it really helps your talk go more smoothly if you've already thought about how to turn the text and pictures on your slides into spoken words – even if you don't use the same words next time. It just creates mental connections that make it easier to do that visual-to-verbal translation.
- Email your presentation to me beforehand if you can. Otherwise, just bring a copy on a thumbdrive if you prefer.
- Be sure to include scalebars on any images you show. (JMars will do this automatically if you add the "scalebar" layer).