Peer Response to First Draft of Research Paper
EEB 4609W

Complete your peer response and bring it with you to *Discussion* on Nov. 19-20.

Instructions for Peer Response (expect to spend about 30 min. per draft)

1) Write your name and email or phone contact on each peer draft, so the peer can contact you if there is any confusion.

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2) Use the following to guide you as you comment on the draft.

a) Avoid extensive copy-editing. Put a wavy line under phrases or lines that are difficult to follow or have major grammatical errors, and put boxes around particularly clear passages.

b) Scan the paper and underline the **central question** of the paper. Is it clearly stated? It is placed logically in the paper (i.e., does it come too soon or too late)?

c) In the **Introduction**, does the author make clear why the central question is important?

d) Does the **main body** of the paper seem focused? Or does it jump from point to point, like a list of different discussion points? If the latter is true, which one or two points seem like the best candidates for focus?

e) Does your peer include a **conclusion** that wraps up the current state of knowledge about the paper topic and returns to the central question?

f) Are there any **recurring writing issues** that need to be addressed (lack of topic sentences, extensive use of passive voice, use of jargon, failure to define terms, incomplete sentences, etc.)?

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3) On the back of the paper, write out answers to the following questions:

a) What do you think is the greatest strength of the draft?

b) What do you suggest is the single most important revision your peer could make?