MAT 112: Calculus & Modeling I
Project Guidelines

Important Deadlines:
Article selection – Nov 12 (11:55 pm)
PowerPoint slides – Nov 30 (5:30 pm)

Work with a partner to complete this project. You will be graded as a team for (1) the choice of topic and (2) design and clarity of FOUR Powerpoint slides (see the sample PPT file). You will be graded individually for your part of the in-class presentation. You will have a total of FOUR minutes to present your project – no exceptions, no extensions. I strongly recommend practicing your presentation with each other at the Speaking Center, so your explanations are clear and your timing and transitions are clean.

The goal of the project is to find a scientific article that features a mathematical model that you think a MAT 112 student would find interesting. The model does not have to be sophisticated; the strongest projects will be models that will be accessible to future Calculus & Modeling students. In other words, you can think of this assignment as picking a model you would have enjoyed learning about in class this semester. The paper must be a research article, published in a peer-reviewed journal. Some good sources for open-access online journals are the Public Library of Science (PLOS) http://www.plos.org/, BioMed Central: http://www.biomedcentral.com/, and PNAS. You might also use references in the textbook to help you start your search. All articles must be approved in advance.

Your article selection is due to me by 11:55 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12. Email me the title of the article (be sure to cc your partner!) and upload a PDF copy of the article to https://www.dropbox.com/request/aash7ZzbHhv8tBKLa7TY. If I have concerns about your choice of article, I will communicate that to you by Friday, Nov. 17. If more than one group chooses the same (or very similar) article, it goes to the first group to submit it, and the other group will have to find another article. Therefore, it is a good idea to have a backup plan, and it is to your advantage to submit early.

On December 1, you will present your FOUR Powerpoint slide project report. You must use at least 18 pt font for any and all text. I will sit in the back of the room, and if I can’t read your slides, I will deduct points from your grade. You must have the journal article title and your names on the first slide, and the complete citation for your article, along with any other sources you might have used, on the last slide.

Each partner should speak for a roughly equal amount of time. You will have a total of 4 minutes for your presentation. The PowerPoint files are due to me by 5:30 p.m. the day before your presentation (upload to https://www.dropbox.com/request/iz3EzYHLk9jZBMWkVAh ) so I can load them all on the classroom computer. Whatever you send to me by the deadline is what you stand up with – no last minute edits!