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En202-02

Land vs. Marine Biology

Would you like to learn more about life here on earth? EN202 is a college level course that teaches English Literature and one of its ultimate goals is to teach students how to effectively write essays. Our teacher, Ms. Bunts-Andersen, gave each student a choice to select any topic of our own to base our essays and our Academic Research Report on. We could choose various issues ranging from any category. I, as an NRM major, selected environmental science as a general topic. However, since Science is a very broad diverse field of education and we have a 12-week time span; I narrowed my focus down to mainly 2 topics, Land Biology and Marine Biology. Each has its similarities and differences. In addition, our topics have to cover or relate to our island of Saipan. This argumentative essay will propose whether I will select Land or Marine Biology, have a brief intro to both, why I choose either, how I will do my research (methodology/tentative time frame), where can I get information, and show how it is possible.

Land and Marine biology are two major subjects under scientific fields. Bio means “life” and logy means “the study of.” So Biology is the study of life. Land Biology is the study of life on land and Marine Biology is the study of life in Marine or water habitats like oceans, lakes, etc… I found both of these topics very interesting and can add to our learning experience. “Biology is the study of life – playing a crucial role in our everyday existence.” Wouldn’t you feel safer or more aware if you u knew every living thing in our environments? Biology is the answer. So will it be Marine biology or Land biology.

(UOS 2013)

I would select Marine Biology. There are so many reasons as to why I chose Marine Biology. Our essays should cover or relate to Saipan. Saipan is a small tropical pacific island. We have a small land mass, so we do not have so many land creatures to study. Our island is surrounded by coral reefs and the Pacific Ocean, plus we also have a lake, Susupe Lake. We would have as much or more Marine life in our islands as most parts of the world. There is an area called “The Coral Reef Triangle” and it is said to be” the most diverse area of coral reefs in the world.” Saipan is very near or is in the triangle. There are a lot of hot topics like Santuaries, Monuments, Protected Areas, Endangered Species, and much more Marine issues. Now that I selected my focus, how will I do it?

(Moretti G. 2014)

Now that I have chosen Marine Biology, I need questions to answer. The more important questions, the primary question is; Has the conditions our reefs and aquatic creatures (CNMI) progressed or digressed over the past 15 years? Secondary questions can be like; Was any marine specie extinct? Any introduced? How is the ranges on fish population in the CNMI? Is our people of the CNMI satisfied with the outcomes of our Aquatic Environment? There are so many more. I can’t finalize yet, but I am willing to take suggestions from peers and experts.

As mentioned earlier, Saipan has a good field of marine biology. Personal surveys and research may be possible and I plan on doing a few or so. Literature research is also available in our college library and our public library, also the college archives may be an optional source. Teachers, mentors, advisors, are available at our college. “If you ever need help, come see me” Dr. De Torres, my advisor, always tells me. He also mentioned “there are many people that can help you; especially in the NRM Dept., you just have to speak up and listen.” I take any teacher or professionals advise very seriously. Nicole Schafer is also a former teacher of mine; she is a very intelligent woman, especially in scientific fields. Professional Departments like CRM, DFW, MINA, NOAA, etc… are available on island and is full of experienced professionals in diverse fields. I have a pretty good support network of friends and classmates. If that’s not enough, there is always the internet. So I chose my focus and explained how I will do it, is there enough time?

(De Torres 2014)

Our time frame for our report is a fair amount of time of 12 weeks. I am an NRM student and have other courses that also require me to write researches and reports. I would consider myself very busy. My advisor told me “being flexible and being able to kill 2 birds with 1 stone can help you throughout life.” This is what I am hoping to do. Instead of having to do 12 researches or reports, I can relate both courses, so I can kill 2 birds with one stone. By doing so, I don’t have to rush, which can lead to mistakes and errors. By focusing mainly on Marine Biology, I believe I can get all the work done. I set up a plan of working every day, so I don’t fall behind. By getting done early, this allows time for peer review, in turn, for upgrades and corrections. Since my NRM courses encourage me to go to professional departments, I will set appointments and seek help. In addition I go to the beaches every week; this can help me conduct work on my reports.

(De Torres 2014)

Biology, the study of life, is a very important subject that everyone should know. Biology can be divided into Land and Marine Biology. I chose to do Marine Biology for a variety of reasons. Its connects or relates to my NRM courses, there is a lot of sources where I can get my information, there are people I can see to assist me in my researches, being in an island surrounded by an ocean makes studying marine biology easier, it fits my tentative time schedule, I have found a good amount of references and sources, and there are many methods or approaches on how I will conduct my report. The study of Marine Biology can help me in school and in life, this may also help you.

References

<http://sydney.edu.au/science/biology/studying_biology/>

(Moretti G.) Greg Moretti Executive Director of MINA

(De Torres) Dr. Alfredo De Torres Teacher/Advisor in NMC