

Biological Oceanography Extra Credit, 2009

You will (hopefully) become an expert on your biological oceanography topic for either the proposal or term paper. Now you can put that knowledge to good use! This extra credit is worth the equivalent of one homework assignment. We will drop your lowest homework score if you complete the assignment satisfactorily.

Due Date: June 2, 2009

Assignment:

- 1) Using Wikipedia, check to see if there is an entry for your topic. For example, I am really interested in the dinoflagellate *Cochlodinium*, which causes red tides, so I would go to Wikipedia and search for it.
- 2) If the entry already exists, print out a copy of the entry, along with the date you printed it. You will turn that in with your assignment.
- 3) Based on your research for your paper/proposal, provide a better entry for Wikipedia. Turn this in (with #2) on June 2.
- 4) If you are ambitious and want good karma points, register with Wikipedia and fix the entry for your topic online.

Guidelines: you should have at least a ½ page or so of information for your Wikipedia entry. You don't need to provide links to other pages (if you want to, that's great), but you SHOULD provide references for any facts you provide (the references do not count towards the half-page).

Suggestions: try looking at similar pages to see what a good/bad entry is like. Using *Cochlodinium* as an example, if I went to the *Pseudo-nitzschia* page, that has a much more useful entry. If I went to the *Dinophysis* page, that one is MUCH worse.

Extra Credit on the Final: There will be an extra credit question on the final exam asking you what is so bad about the *Dinophysis* Wikipedia page.