Group Project Expectations

When:
I will reserve the last three days of the semester for in-class presentations of projects: April 17, April 19, April 24. There will be a signup where you can sign up for a day to present. I should note that I will be a bit more generous in my assessment of the groups that present on earlier days, and I will have slightly higher expectations for groups that present on the later days. Not a huge amount, but a bit. This is because it is harder to present first without having seen others' presentations.

How long:
-With 25 people in the class, we've ended up with seven 3-person groups, and one 4-person group, which is just fine.
- Presentations should be roughly 12-14 minutes for 3-person groups, and roughly 14-15 minutes for the 4-person group. Each group member should speak for roughly equal time during the presentation.
- There will be 4 to 5 minutes for questions from the audience.

What should be turned in (besides doing the oral presentation):
- Each group will turn in a typed summary (one summary per group) of what they learned in their research. This will be due on April 24 for every group regardless of presentation date. This should be around 2 pages typed. It is not a full research paper, but rather a fairly concise summary of the topic investigated and the important findings. The written summary will be graded with a single score for each group. All students in the group should collaborate on the writing of this summary.

Grading of the Oral Presentations:
The grading rubric for the presentations will be based on the one used by Dr. Grego, who very commonly used oral presentations in his classes.

- Each student/group will be graded on the oral presentation. I will grade each student out of 5 points on Presentation Style; 5 points on Organization; and 5 points on Visuals. The "Visuals" component will be the same grade for each group member, since I expect the group members will collaborate on the creation of the visuals (which could be slides, pictures, or any displayed visual elements). The "Presentation Style" component could be different for each group member, since it relates to how well that member presents his or her portion of the presentation. The "Organization" component will likely be the same or similar across members of a given group, unless it is apparent that one portion of the presentation is notably less or more organized than the rest of the presentation.

In addition, students in the class will watch their classmates' presentations and write *confidential* comments about each classmate's performance. Each student in the class will be given sheets of paper with space to write comments on each student presenter. For each presenting student, you will write one thing the student did well and one thing the student could improve on. These written comments will be handed to me. Eventually, when I give students feedback, I will pick a few comments that I feel accurately and insightfully assess the presenter's performance and include those in the feedback. But of course, the commenters' identities will NOT be revealed in the feedback. Your efforts on your comments on others' presentations will be a small part of your project grade as well.

Quizzes (you didn't think I'd forget those, did you?)
-Each group will submit separately to me three (I think) multiple-choice questions (along with the answers) related to the content of their presentations. These will be used for Blackboard Quizzes for those class days. The quizzes for those presentation days will be Blackboard quizzes done at home by all the students rather than in-class quizzes.