**SOIL 4683 -- Soil, Water, and Weather**

**Fall 2015**

Semester Project:

This year semester projects will focus on the development of educational resources relevant to the course. Students will individually select and rank the five chapters from the textbook which are most relevant to them. Students will be assigned to teams based on common interests. Each team will be assigned one chapter for which they must develop **an educational resource** such as a video, web page, or classroom demonstration. The educational resource must be accompanied by **a related homework problem set** and **answer key**. The educational resource must specifically address a topic highlighted within the assigned chapter, but it is not necessary (and not recommended) to address all the topics in the chapter.

Completed semester projects must be submitted by email to the instructor by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25. After submitting the project, each team must give a **10-minute class presentation** on their educational resource followed by a Q&A period.

If there is a graduate student(s) on the team, that student(s) will be responsible to provide effective leadership for the team. The grade a student receives for the semester project will be the sum of two components: the instructor's evaluation of the team's project and presentation (max. 60 points) and the fellow team members' evaluations of that student's contribution (max. 40 points). The semester project represents 20% of a student's grade in this course.

Progress reports: In order to provide timely feedback while teams are working on their projects, we will devote two class periods for progress reports: Friday, October 16 and Friday, November 13. Each team will give an **informal 5-minute report** on those dates to show their progress on the project. This will provide an opportunity for the instructor, the TAs, and fellow students to give the team feedback aimed at improving their project. These reports do not affect the team's grade on the project.

Resources:
Class webpage: http://soilphysics.okstate.edu/teaching/soil-4683/
Additional book: Environmental Soil Physics, 1998, Daniel Hillel (available in library)