STUDENT NAME

Professor

English 302

4 March, 2020

Discipline Awareness Paper

Environmental specialists are professionals who focus on developing community practices that promote the health and wellbeing of the population through their research, campaigns, and actions that support ideal environments for all organisms. Aside from their major goal of observing and addressing the impact of a population on the ecosystems that are inhabited by various species, environmental specialists are assume the role of working with public and private organizations to identify specific problems with air, soil, and water quality in different environments and recommend solutions that not only eliminate them but enhance the capacity to contribute to sustainable developments. While the field of environmental science is broad, the discipline consists of environmental scientists, environmental lawyers, environmental biologists, and environmental geologists, among others. In this regard, the environmental biologist is the branch that specializes in landscape analysis and management and land and water conversation that supports the environmental geologist's goal of protecting water bodies and supply systems from contaminations without disrupting the natural resources that support the growth of organisms in the natural habitats. The environmental scientist is the specialist who works with other practitioners in this discipline to mitigate the impacts of population activities on the environment by investigating and solving different types of problems. They provide the resources that the environmental lawyer requires to formulate regulations and interpret laws that protect the rights of indigenous people from economic activities. Similarly, the interdependencies that exist within the disciplines make it imperative for the professionals to exchange ideas through a presentation at seminars and conferences by professional associations such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As a result, issues such as the relationship between community health and marine life and oceans and the determination of the effects of climate change on the changes in the oceans, coastlines, and marine life have huge attention from all experts.

Furthermore, the focus of environmental specialists to address some of the issues that are created by climate change on oceans, coastlines, and marine life and their impacts on community health has influenced the types of articles that are published by peer-reviewed journals such as the *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, *American Fisheries Society*, and *PLoS One* among others. Also, the implication of these issues and publications is the need for discipline-specific databases such as *PubMed Central, Ocean Health Index, Environmental Science Collection*, and *Biological Science Database*, among others. Similarly, the major organizations in environmental science such as the NOAA, American Public Health Association (APHA), and National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) publish trade publications such as *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* and *The Biological Bulletin*. *Deep-Sea Research Part II: Topical Studies in Oceanography* is one of the leading interdisciplinary journals in the field that publishes articles on oceanography projects and academic papers from conferences on a variety of subjects. Aside from this source of information, the *Marine Pollution Bulletin* is another academic journal that is focused on research studies, new commentary, and reviews on a range of topics that environmental scientists, lawyers, engineers, marine biologists, and politicians require to understand and address the various aspects of marine pollution and their impacts on estuaries, seas, and oceans. Therefore, this discipline has various sources of information that support the attainment of the goals and missions of different environmental specialists.

Meanwhile, the nature of the issues that are investigated and addressed in the field of environmental science necessitated the use of various research methods, including qualitative and quantitative studies. While primary sources are widely used by researchers in this field to gain insights into the findings from experimental studies, interviews, surveys, and fieldwork are other approaches that provide the data that guides the investigations. Also, experimental studies that entail the assessment of independent and control variables provide environmental specialists the framework to determine the measures for solving some of the major contemporary issues that they endeavor to resolve. Similarly, observational studies provide the data source that allows professionals in this discipline to achieve their goals and missions such as the one that produced the findings that were documented in "Indicators of Ocean Health and Human Health: Developing a Research and Monitoring Framework" by Anthony Knap and his colleagues. A final research method that provides primary and secondary information for practitioners is a content analysis that is designed to review the information from articles on a particular topic to determine their accuracy and validity and potential impacts on the discipline.

In spite of the existence of several writing conventions and genres that different academic disciplines can utilize, observational studies, literature reviews, case studies, and experimental reports are some of the common ones that guide the completion of written tasks by students and professionals. For example, literature reviews are required by the academic journals to highlight existing knowledge on the topic and how the researcher has synthesized the various themes and issues to support the significance of the present study. In contrast, case studies are used to demonstrate the impacts of the application of the theoretical frameworks of real-world or hypothetical scenarios. However, the scientific nature of the investigations that are conducted in this discipline makes it imperative for practitioners to utilize an increased number of the findings from their experiments and observations as the genre to guide their presentations to members of the community. Hence, literature review assists students and professionals in this field to provide the background information on the topic and gaps that informed their experimental or observational studies while case study analysis helps illustrate the practical applications of the findings

While reflecting on the activities that essential for the completion of this assignment, I realized that environmental specialists has have significant roles to play in the global efforts to reverse the negative consequences of modifications in the climatic conditions of our environments on the availability of natural resources for the continued existence of living things on planet earth. Also, the information gathered has motivated me to continue my investigations into the connections between population health, marine life, and socioeconomic activities on the ocean. Finally, the depth of information that I gathered from the various articles and databases, including the ones by Kite-Powell et al., Gregory Bossart, and Anthony Knap and colleagues have laid the foundation for me to continue my investigations into the impacts of marine pollution on public health and potential marine benefits to medicine.