

Weekly Report 1  
8/20-8/26

### Beginning of the future

This past week was my first week as a student in the Independent Study Mentorship program. I have begun improving my soft skills and my journey with in depth research in the field of environmental engineering

For our first assignment for ISM was to give a speech introducing myself to the class. This was my first opportunity to share information about my topic, although I did not reach the time limit of three minutes I was however, able to talk about environmental engineering with good presence and confidence. To improve upon my first speech, I will make sure that I am fully prepared. In the first speech I attempted to improvise most of it as it was a speech about myself and things that are of interest to me, but I did not have enough content to reach the time limit of three minutes. The next speech I give in class I will prepare and practice the speech timing myself the make sure I reach the required time. In the future I need to make sure the speech has a continuity and is not a stream of consciences by outlining my ideas in areas of importance and topic so the speech not only provides information but also engages the audience.

The main focus of ISM is to conduct an independent study over a topic of interest. Throughout the week, I have been able to research my topic and begin thinking about original work portion of the class. My goal is to create something to improve upon a problem within the environment, my focus being water usage, as citizens in Frisco we continue to overwater grass (such as turning sprinklers on when it is raining) thus creating problems with the soil. Although I am still in the beginning stages of the class, I believe my research this year in the effects of over watering on the environment will aid in formulation a solution to put an end to over watering.

Overall, this year is off to an excellent start, as improvements and research have already begun. I am looking forward to being able to put my knowledge and research in motion in creating my own original work on the important issue of water usage in suburban areas.