Proposal

# Topic

The focus of this work will be qualitatively assessing the direct and indirect economic impacts of climate change on South Carolina communities, from coastal towns to areas more upstate. I will be primary focusing on issues that are the most directly caused by climate change, such as rising temps and sea levels (and their effects), as they are less abstract to average people, but might expand into more indirect effects such as storms or flooding. If it ends up being feasible enough, or if there is already credible work done on it, a quantitative analysis on climate change’s economic impact in South Carolina could be done

Using the Port of Charleston as an example case, if that port alone had a major disaster, it would have major repercussions, as 1 in 11 South Carolina workers have a job supported by the Port.

After presenting the information on the risks, policy solutions will be recommended to mitigate the aforementioned risks that is impactful, easy for a layperson to understand, and politically viable.

# Data Collection

The first plan of action is to find data on the environmental factors that would affect South Carolinians. Estimates for temperature rise throughout the state, how much higher sea levels would rise, wildlife loss, 100-year flood estimates, et cetera. Using those risks, I would find the most impacted industry by them, and their importance to the SC economy, such as amount of jobs they employ, how dependent other industry is on it, and how much money it brings in to South Carolina.

Based off those risks, recommendations and analyses will be collected from different agencies, universities, and think tanks policy to be used.

To create a compelling story, Google Earth will be used in conjunction with social media (with redacted information?) posts collected from the social media lab, in addition to standard photographs, to highlight the very real repercussions of climate change and the people it would hit.

# Plan of communication

Prezi will be used to present the information in a linear presentation that combines visuals with texts. The audience is laypeople who are either disinterested in climate change, whether it be people who don’t think it’s a concern, to people who fully understand the effects of climate change but don’t feel it’s an imminent threat to their everyday life and community. The intent is to provide perspective of how it does, and motivate them to somehow adjust their lives how they see fit, whether it be political motivation, or just have them try to reduce their carbon footprint.