The student representatives asked for specification of the criteria used to grade the reading projects. It is difficult to give general and precise criteria for the possibly quite different topics, ranging from a description of some event like the Madoff fraud to a description of technical issues in using simulation to assess bias in extreme value estimation. Here, however an attempt to give criteria:

Is the oral presentation interesting and informative for the course participants? (4p)

4p: interesting; listeners learn new things; gives a good overview of the subject

3p: satisfies 2 of the 3 criteria needed for 4p and makes some effort regarding the third

2p: satisfies 1 of the 3 criteria needed for 4p and makes some effort regarding the two others

1p: somewhat interesting and educational

0p: none of the above

Is the written report useful reading for the course participants? (4p)

4p: readers learn new and interesting things; shows that the authors have understood the major issues regarding the subject; easy to read

3p: the report shows that the authors have understood the major issues regarding the subject, but the there is some problem with interest or readability

2p: the report shows that the authors have understood many of the major issues regarding the subject, but the readability, and interest of the report and the selection of facts to present lacks in quality

1p: there is some lack of quality for all three criteria, but they are still met to some extent

0p: none of the above

Is the referencing well done? (1p)

1p: a suitable amount of relevant references is included in the report

0p: the criterion above is not satisfied

Is the advice on further reading useful for the course participants? (1p)

1p: yes

0p: not much