Term Paper Guidelines

Due: Wednesday of Finals Week   **50 Points**

   The main purpose for this activity is to *thoroughly* research an issue beyond what was covered in class or text. You may choose any relevant topic of interest to you but the topic must consider an ***International Perspective or aspect.***

   I expect the paper ***to be at least 1500 words*** (approximately 5 pages). You need to use ***at least five scholarly peer reviewed sources*** for the paper but more is definitely better. The sources must be properly cited within the text to give credit to the source authors. Be sure you use the proper ***APA format*** for referencing your sources, examples are provided below.

   You must use ***SCHOLARY SOURCES*** such as journal articles, books, or government reports. You may ***NOT*** use your textbook as a referenced source in your paper. The textbook is a good starting point to find topics if you are having a hard time deciding on a topic. Your topic can include the USA but you must also include a comparative perspective from the international community. Here are some example topics from your text but you are not limited to these topics.

Sustainable cities	Tijuana Sewage	Alternative energy in Sweden
Endangered species	GMO bans in Europe	Solar Power in Germany
Mineral mining in Rainforest	Urban Sprawl in Brazil	Mining in the Congo
Uranium mining in Australia	Sea level rise and islands	Sustainability

You may NOT write a paper on global warming, climate change, China's one-child policy, or evolution and creative design.

   A scholarly peer-reviewed source includes a ***book, academic journal, or a government report***. Websites may be used but they must be from reliable sources such as government agencies. It is strongly suggested that you only use internet sources found through the library resources.

YOU HAVE TO DO MORE THAN A GOOGLE SEARCH!

<center>**Term Paper Guidelines**</center>

The Terra library has many excellent resources available online, especially in the

Opposing Viewpoints library links. Here are some example categories under the *Energy and*

Environmentalism subheading:

http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/?userGroupName=ter24599

Activism	Environmentalism	Oceans
Air Pollution	Foreign Oil Dependence	Offshore Drilling
Biofuels	Fracking	Organic Food
BP Oil Spill	Gasoline	Pollution
Carbon Offsets	Green Cities	Recycling
China	India	Renewable Energy
Coal	Latin America	Solar Storms
Deforestation	Local Food Movement	Urban Agriculture
E-Waste	Mass Extinctions	US Energy Grid
Eco-Architecture	Natural Disasters	Vegetarianism
Endangered Species	Nigeria	Water Pollution
Energy Crisis	Nuclear Energy	

Example of proper format for references IN TEXT:

Book or Journal Article: (Author(s) last name, YEAR)

  The wild boar has caused extensive damage to the wildlife reserve (Smith, 1993).

Examples of proper APA format for REFERENCES. APA examples:

Journal Article:

Adelgid, B. W. (1999). Killing fraser firs in the Smoky Mountains. *Journal of Exotics and*

   Introduced Species. 1 (15), 13-15.

Book:

 Boar, E. W. (1993). *Upsetting the balance of the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge*. (3rd ed.).

   London: Island Press.

On-Line Sources:

 Mussel, Z., Loosestrife, P. (September 23, 1999). *Gaining a foothold in a new environment*.

   Retrieved from: http://www.USDA/eliminatingnativespecies.gov/

Sources for Scholarly Articles

Terra State Library:

https://ozz.terra.edu/search/

Opposing Viewpoints:

http://ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/?userGroupName=ter24599

EJC - Electronic Journal Center, every article is attached as PDF in the search results

http://journals.ohiolink.edu/ejc/index.cgi

E-Book Center on Ohio Links

http://ebooks.ohiolink.edu/ebc-home/

Environment EBSCO search

http://www.terra.edu/support/EnviroScience.html

If you must Google, use *Google Scholar* (find specific sources here and then search for them in the library

search engines)

http://scholar.google.com/

The following are the allowed online resources:

- Electronic journals from the library

- Websites ending in *.gov*

The following are not appropriate for college level and will result in a reduction of your

grade:

- WIKI, Hubpages, blogs, anything not peer or professionally reviewed
- The textbook from this class or any other textbook from any class
- Encyclopedias (online or book), Dictionary.com, WEBmd
- Most websites with advertising are not to be trusted
- Home schooling resources (texts, online resources)
- Any text published by a religious organization

Term Paper Guidelines

Paper Outline:

An example of the detailed grading rubric is included at the end of these instructions but the following guidelines should be followed at minimum:

Introduction: Introduce the issue you are presenting. Assume I know very little or nothing about your chosen topic. Describe the topic to the best of your ability and delineate any subtopics or points of interest that will be presented in the paper. After reading the introduction, I should be clear *what* your topic is and have a clue where you are going with the topic.

Body: Discuss your topic using the various resources you found in your literature research. Present various perspectives, sources, and/or solutions to the issue. You may compare and contrast the various sources and perspectives.   There should be a logical progression of you subtopics and integration of the source material. You should have many citations from the research you have done this section. You are finished when you are sure, I will know why this topic is important and you clearly learned something about the topic.

Conclusion: Summarize the topic again; highlighting what you learned, any questions you still have, and what aspect you need to do more research on for another paper. You could tell me what you think is the most significant point or fact and why. Basically, in your own words, tell me what the topic is again and why it is important in a few sentences or paragraphs.

Term Paper Guidelines

Use the College's Writing Lab as a resource. The tutors will not be experts on your topic but they are very helpful with forming your argument, double checking for grammar and meaning, and overcoming writer's block.

If it is too late to get to the Writing Lab, try the Purdue Online Writing Lab. The resources are amazing and always available.

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

Purdue OWL is a comprehensive college writing resource including:

How to write a Research Paper

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/658/01/

APA Style Guides

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/664/1/

At minimum, have someone proofread your paper for spelling, grammar, and organizational problems. It is always helpful to have at least one literate and logical friend or relative read through your paper. Do not rely solely on spell check. Do not be embarrassed to let someone else read your paper. I routinely had my wife read my research papers for my doctorate courses. Even if she knew nothing about my topic, she easily and frequently pointed out unclear sentences, missing punctuation, or misused words. All researchers use informal and formal peer review before anything gets published.

Reread the instructions and apply these final notes again *before* you turn in the paper.

Term Paper Guidelines

Term Paper Rubric

Evaluation Criteria and Guidelines:	Page Guidelines	Point Values

Paper

Criteria	Page Guidelines	Point Values
Title page (no abstract needed)	1 page	**5 points**
Introduction: Statement/overview of the topic to be discussed.	1/2 Page	**5 points**
Description and discussion of the issue supported by relevant and multiple sources of information. Clear concise statements on the issue.	3-4 Pages	**15 points**
Concise summary statement restating the issue, the essential evidence that supports your summary and conclusion.	1/2 Page	**5 points**
Works Cited page and peer-reviewed sources cited in paper text	1 Page	**10 points**

    Appropriate number (minimum of 5)

    Appropriate type (scholarly peer-reviewed sources)

    Proper APA format

Criteria		Point Values
Spelling and grammar		**10 points**

    Neatness

    Clarity and consistency of focus

Total Points		**50 points**