

Guidelines for Proposal and Essay

Essay Assignment (40 %)

Length: You are required to write an essay of 10-12 pages (about 3000 words) in length (excluding the title page and bibliography), double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font, on white paper, with adequate (1.25 inch) margins on each side of the page. Pages must be numbered consecutively. Include a title page with the title of your paper, your name, student number, the course number, and the CD name. Paper should be stapled. Please, do not put your paper in a folder or binder.

Due: at the **beginning of class, Nov 28, 2013.** Papers handed after the beginning of class will be considered late. Late assignment will be penalized at **5%** per day, inclusive of weekends and may be returned without comments. Papers later than seven days past the deadline will not be graded.

Late papers should be dropped off in Political Science Department drop box. **box. Do not hand in papers under the Course Director's office door**, assuming they are found at all, they will be considered to have arrived only once they are found. You may **not** submit papers by fax or e-mail.

Topics & Questions:

- The Internet and the spread of markets, its significance for surveillance - social and military, especially in light of 9/11.
- Global governance – markets and democracy.
- The intensified commodification and exploitation of the human body and/or of nature. The implications for gendered aspects of globalization.
- Globalization and fashion today: food, drink, clothing, music: North and South
- Trade and Investment treaties and new constitutionalism - for example the case of NAFTA.
- New constitutionalism versus democracy?
- Cultural conflict: globalization, liberalization and the spread of American culture.
- A clash of civilizations or a clash of globalizations?
- Affluence and insecurity in globalization, North and South.
- The role of advertising and lifestyle marketing in the creation of consumer and political identities
- The branding of identities, the branding of politics (or Team Canada goes in to bat....)
- Resistance to globalization: for example the role of the World Trade Organization versus the “battle in Seattle.”
- Resistance and alternatives, local and global.
- Internet surveillance: should the state have access to your internet activities?
- Food security, food sovereignty
- Globalization or imperialism?
- Globalization, development and underdevelopment

- Globalization and war

***** Other topics must be approved before writing a proposal**

Sources:

Outside sources:

- 2 scholarly book published after 2001 (collected works are not acceptable)
- 8 recent peer-evaluated article from a scholarly journal

Inside sources: All relevant articles/chapters from the course material, including the recommended readings

Referencing and bibliography: MLA

Assessment: You will be assessed based on your ability to develop a good research questions from the above topics, use all relevant sources, think critically, and to articulate clear arguments. You are also expected to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the course material.

Grading criteria will include the following:

- Your ability to write a fluent, cohesive, and analytical essay research paper based on academic standards. Essays should include introductory and concluding paragraphs and a structured argument supported by evidence.
- Your ability to develop a good research questions.
- Your ability to develop a good thesis sentence.
- Your ability to address counter arguments.
- Your ability to apply theory and define your terms.
- Your ability to think critically, to articulate a clear argument and support it with reference to the readings.
- Your ability to synthesize the material from the course.
- Your originality and research skills .

Proposal Assignment (15%)

Length: 2-3 pages, double-spaced + annotated bibliography (single-spaced). Must be typed in Times New Roman 12 point font, on white paper, with adequate (1.25 inch) margins on each side of the page. Pages must be numbered consecutively. Include a title page with the title of your proposal/paper, your name, student number, the course number, and the CD and TA names. Paper should be stapled. Please, do not put your proposal/paper in a folder or binder.

Due: at the **beginning of seminar, October 24, 2013**. Proposals handed after the beginning of your tutorial will be considered late. Late assignment will be penalized at **5%** per day, inclusive

of weekends and may be returned without comments. Proposals later than seven days past the deadline will not be graded.

Late papers should be dropped off in Political Science Department drop box. **box. Do not hand in papers under the Course Director's office door**, assuming they are found at all, they will be considered to have arrived only once they are found. You may **not** submit papers by fax or e-mail.

Your proposal must include the following:

1. **The topic of your paper** (chosen from the above list)
2. **Your research question.**
3. **Your thesis** (answer to your research question). A thesis is one sentence that captures the central/core/key argument of your paper. Your thesis should explicitly express a stand/position that you are taking. Thesis statements are usually framed as sentences starting with “I will argue/show/demonstrate/suggest/...”. By reading your thesis, the reader should be able to determine the general direction of your writing.

Example of a **bad** thesis statement: “In this paper, I will demonstrate how liberal and realist accounts of international relations and security are related to the ways in which they perceive human nature”.

This is a **bad** thesis statement (in fact, it is **not** a thesis statement at all), for it merely states the topic chosen and an intention to write about it. A good thesis statement in this case should answer the question “*how* liberal and realist accounts of international relations and security are related to the ways in which they perceive human nature?”, that is, what is the *relation* between their assumptions about human nature and their accounts of international relations? It addition, it should include a claim/stand/position on this question.

Here is an example of a **good** thesis statement: “In this paper, I will argue that the assumption of human nature which informs both realist and liberal approaches to international relations and security serves to mystify and naturalize the current world order by presenting a static view of social relations and thus makes both approaches complicit with the maintenance of the current unequal and oppressive world order.”

4. An explanation of the **logic of your argument**. In other words, I want you to explain how you intend to demonstrate the validity of your thesis. What are the arguments that you are going to bring forward in support of your thesis? How do these arguments support your thesis? How are they related to one another?
5. **An annotated bibliography** (single-spaced; 8 sources). Your annotated bibliography should include at east 8 outside sources that you intend to use for your paper.
Your annotations must explicitly note how your topic is addressed in the sources (what is the main argument of each sources), and how you intend to use each of these sources (i.e. how the arguments put forth in the sources relate to your own argument, do the arguments complement your own, do they challenge your own, etc.).

Keep your annotations short: between 5-6 lines for each one.

Name: _____
 Course: Global Conflict and Security I
 Essay Proposal Grade: _____

Criteria	Superior (90-100%)	Excellent (80-89%)	Very Good (70-79%)	Good (60-69%)	Marginal (50-59%)	Failing
Thesis	Clearly stated and innovative thesis; unambiguously identifies the central purpose of the paper and the structure of the argument	Clearly stated thesis; unambiguously identifies the central purpose of the paper and the structure of the argument	Clearly stated thesis; unambiguously identifies central purpose of the paper	Somewhat ambiguous/unclear thesis; identifies central purpose of the paper	Ambiguous/unclear thesis; underspecified statement of the central purpose of the paper	No detectable thesis; no statement of the central purpose of the paper
Breakdown of the argument	Clear and detailed breakdown of the argument; supportive arguments to the thesis clearly stated; explains very clearly the logic/structure of the paper's argument.	Clear breakdown of the argument; supportive argument to the thesis clearly stated; explains clearly the logic/structure of the paper's argument.	Clear breakdown of the argument; supportive argument to the thesis clearly stated but does not explicitly states how they will relate to the structure of the argument OR Clearly explain the logic/structure of the argument but does not explicitly/clearly state the supportive arguments to the thesis.	Unclear/superficial outline of the argument; supportive arguments to the thesis unclearly stated; unclearly or superficially explain the logic/structure of the argument.	Very superficial outline of the argument.	Logic/structure of the argument unspecified.
Annotated bibliography	Excellent and diversified range of material; material is relevant to the argument suggested; explicitly notes the argument presented in the sources and how each source will be used in relation to the paper's argument.	Excellent range of material; material is relevant to the argument suggested; notes how the topic is addressed in the sources and how each source will be used in relation to the paper's argument.	Very good range of material; material is generally relevant to the argument suggested; notes how the topic is addressed in the sources but doesn't indicate how each source will be used in relation to the paper's argument Or indicates how each source will be used in relation to the paper's argument but doesn't note how the topic is addressed in the sources	Argument is located within an appropriate range of material; relevance of some sources questionable; unclearly or superficially notes how topic is addressed in the sources and how each sources will be used	Very limited research is evident/insufficient material; relevance of source questionable; very superficial annotations, merely states topic addressed in the sources	No evidence of outside research Or No bibliography/bibliography not annotated
Writing	Writing style is engaging and appropriate; virtually no errors	Writing style is engaging and appropriate; infrequent errors	Writing style is appropriate; infrequent errors	Writing style is appropriate; frequent errors	Writing style is inappropriate; excessive errors	Paper is unintelligible, excessive errors

Paper is appropriately referenced (if it applies) YES _____ NO _____

Bibliography is appropriately formatted YES _____ NO _____

(NB: you were not penalized even if 'NO' is checked in either or both cases, but it should serve as an 'alarm signal' for your paper. If the appropriate corrections are not made in your final paper, you will be strongly penalized and eventually failed depending on the gravity of the problem.)