**CSU East Bay, Winter 2018**

 **Geography of World Development GEOG 2400**

 **Research Project Guidelines**

 **Research Project: A Country Profile (60 points)**

 **Due February 27, 2018**

1. Your research project will apply the theory of global development and your data analysis skills to a country of your choice. The project should be based on **the analysis of the original statistical data** and supported by **valid published** and **online** sources (see the rules for literature citation and referencing below).
2. There are about 200 countries in the world today. When choosing a **country** for your research project, select it from a **region** you are mostly interested in (use the World Bank-designated regions), and from a **group of countries by the level of economic development** thatyou would like to explore (high-income, middle-income, low-income economies, transition economies, command economies). **Make sure you have sufficient statistical data relevant to the country of your choice.**
3. Your essay will start with **an introduction** explaining why you’ve chosen this particular country for analysis and describing the original data that you are going to analyze. The essay should end with **a conclusion** summarizing your data, observations, hypotheses, ideas, opinions, and explanations. Here is a tentative outline of your project:

**Introduction:**

* explain why you’ve chosen this particular country for analysis
* describe the original data that you are going to analyze

 **Essay body**:

* + - the county’s geographic situation
		- climate, topography, natural resources, potential natural hazards
		- population indicators (**add statistical data and graphs**)
		- political system
		- economic and social development
			* economic indicators (**add statistical data and graphs**)
				+ GDP and GNI per capita
				+ level of economic development based on the World Bank classification
				+ Gini coefficient
				+ other relevant statistical indicators
			* leading sectors of economy (agriculture, mineral resource extraction, manufacturing, services)
			* social indicators (**add statistical data and graphs**)
				+ educational level
				+ health of the population
				+ internet penetration rate

**Conclusions:**

* + - summarize your data, ideas and opinions
		- explain why the country is developing in a certain way
		- provide some insights into the future development prospects

**Reference List** (see thecitation and reference guidelines)

1. **Formatting**: Typed, **five-to-six**-page long (not including data tables and references), double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around. Nothing more than your name and the date should be on the top right hand side of the paper. No cover page. A descriptive **title** should be at the top-center of the first page. **Pages should be numbered**.
2. Start with a **research proposal** (an outline of your proposed project). Submit a research proposal for my approval no later than **February 15**. The **proposal** should include **the country** that your proposed project will focus on and **a short bullet-point outline**. Meet with me as soon as possible in order to discuss your ideas. You can e-mail me the proposal and get my feedback. **Important**: research projects that have not been approved prior to the February 27 deadline will not be accepted.
3. Your research project should include the original statistical **data** that you will describe, analyze, and use for making conclusions. There are multiple sources of statistical data including those that you were using in your homework assignments (posted on the class Blackboard site). All data sources must be clearly identified; the data should be organized in tables and placed in the attachment. At least **one original graph or diagram** based on these data should be described and analyzed in the essay.
4. In addition to the original statistical data (cited and referenced), your essay should have 4-5 sources from identifiable authors, cited both within the essay as well as listed in an alphabetical bibliography, according to a **standard citation style** (APA or Chicago Style). Here is a link to the **APA** and **Chicago** citation styles: http://www.lib.unc.edu/instruct/citations/
5. **Very important:** **all information sources (including data tables and graphs) should be cited both within the text and in the alphabetical order at the end of your essay in the form of a reference list.**

a). Make **a reference list** of all information sources you used in your paper and place it at the end of the paper.

**For a book**, indicate author’s name (or authors’ names), book title, publisher, and the year it was published.

**Example:** Sheppard, Eric, Philip Porter, David Faust, and Richa Nagar (2009). A World of Difference: Encountering and Contesting Development, New York-London: The Guilford Press.

**For a journal article,** indicate author’s name, article title, journal title, year published and volume number, article pages.

**Example:** Malle, S. (2008). Economic Transformation in Russia and China. Eurasian Geography and Economics, 49 (4), 410-444

**For a website**, give a complete web address, its title or topic, and the date when it was accessed.

**Example:** Regional aggregation using 2005 PPP and $1.25/day poverty line,

http://iresearch.worldbank.org/PovcalNet/index.htm?1#, accessed February 16, 2018.

b). In the text, you must **cite** your reference sources at the end of each paragraph where this source was used even if you were not quoting it directly.

**Example:** Pollution is the price paid by an economic system emphasizing ever-increasing growth as a primary goal. Many argue that we must transform our present growth-oriented economic system into a balance-oriented system (Stutz and Warf, 2012)

1. All demographic and statistical data in the form of graphs, diagrams, and tables that you are using in your essay must be **numbered**, **titled**, **properly cited and referenced**, and **referred to** in the essay. Failure to cite information sources in a research essay is considered plagiarism**.** **Plagiarism is unethical and must be strictly avoided**.
2. **Very important:** the project should be **your own work.** Though you are using literature sources and cited data, the paper must be written in your own words with your own **analysis** of the information based on the data, published and online sources, and your original **conclusions**. Your essay will be subject to a plagiarism check through **Turnitin**, an Internet-based plagiarism-detection service. Submit your project to **Turnitin Assignments** link in the **Course Materials** section of your class **Blackboard** site along with **a hard copy** for my evaluation.
3. Submit your project on or before the due date (**February 27, 2018**). It is worth 60 points; however, points will be deducted if you are late.
4. The grading rubric: 60 points totally

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **reference** | **organization** | **data** | **data** | **scientific** |
| **quality** | **and style** | **presentation** | **analysis** | **conclusions** |
| **10** | **5** | **5** | **20** | **20** |