Joshua tree national park Academic Level : Undergraduate Paper details ASSIGNMENT THREE: NATIONAL PARK PAPER AND PRESENTATIONOverview:National parks and monuments are established in part due to their natural and cultural remarkable significance. This significance, often one of spectacular natural beauty, sometimes conveys or represents, in a classic fashion, the character of a particular region. For example, the Grand Canyon is simply the grandest of canyons in a region where such features (canyons) are the one of the morecharacteristic aspects of the topography. In this assignment, you are to write a short paper (five FULL COMPLETE pages minimum not including sources; six maximum) and to make a short descriptive and explanatory presentation (of five minutes in length and prepared with PowerPoint or similar software) to your classmates. Details about the paper and presentation substance, style, and format are provided below.What does this have to do with?This assignment addresses topical content objectives, as well as improving your communications skills with respect to both writing and speaking. Concerning the topical content, this assignment will help the presenter (as well as the audience of classmates) better understand and articulate aspects of physical geography in the United States and Canada.What is required in both the paper and the presentation?The content of the paper and presentation are substantively similar. Your goal is to educate your reader and your audience as to the following questions:•Where is the park? Your colleagues will need to locate this for the exam; •What is remarkable, significant or special to have this area designated with park or monument status? How did this landscape come to be (for example, how was the Grand Canyon carved?)? That is, what natural processes shaped this landscape? How did these processes work? These questions address the park’s natural history.•What are some particularly outstanding features or highlights? What makes them outstanding? How did they come to be?•If the park is representative of a wider physiographic region, in what ways is it representative? For example, the Grand Canyon is a very good example of a canyon landscape within a region of canyons. Note that not all parks are representative of a wider physical region.•The significance may vary from park to park, but review pertinent aspects of the park’s administrative history. That is, what efforts led to the park’s establishment as a park? When did it become a park?•Are there any special distinctive issues or challenges with the park? For example, many parks exhibiting glaciers are seeing dramatic impacts due to climate change.•Is there any special visitor information? Are there special hazards to visitors (such as extreme heat)? How many visitors are there? Are there any special restrictions on access?The character of national parks is quite variable, so not every park will lend itself as fully to each question!What is required of the presentation?Produce a presentation "digitally" using Microsoft PowerPoint software, which presents the assigned park and addresses many of the following substantive points noted above.•You are allowed as many as twelve slides to make your presentation with.•Your presentation should include a title slide that provides the name of the park, your name and other pertinent info.•Use the final slide to note your leading sources.•If possible, use photos, charts, diagrams, or tables. These should serve to enhance your presentation.•Seek permission of the instructor if you would like to use alternative software. This may be allowed in certain cases and with certain provisions.Submit your PowerPoint file by posting it onto a Brightspace discussion board following instructions and procedures that will be explained and demonstrated in class. E-mail attachments are not acceptable. Name your file with your last name and the park name (for example, "Pomeroy – Grand Canyon"). Present your park in a short presentation in class, providing the instructor with a copy of the presentation handout. Prepare a presentation that will last between five (5) and seven (7) minutes, with six (6) as the target. The instructor will provide details (during class) as to when the presentations will be made and what order they will be made in.

What is additionally required in terms of a short paper?A summary paper concerning the park (typed, in a standard font with standard margins; again, five full pages minimum not including sources; again, four full pages minimum and six pages maximum) should be simultaneously be handed in both as “hard copy” (printed) and online (via a Brightspace assignment folder, and using the Turnitin mechanism). The short paper should address the substantive points as noted earlier. What other considerations are there?It may be tempting to “cut and paste” from web sources, but this form of plagiarism is obvious and will not be tolerated. Details of this will explained during the semester. Also, write your paper. It is not to be comprised of lists or bullets.Sample papers and presentations are available on D2L for your consideration.Sources:You must use and cite at least five distinct sources in writing your paper. Ideally some of these sources are “print” or “research database” sources. A lead or primary source would be the National Park Service web site at www.nps.gov. However, use your library databases effectively to arrive at greater depth of information. Be sure to properly cite / reference source materials.How will this be evaluated?The presentation and paper will be evaluated together and will be scored in terms of how well the above questions are answered. In other words, points are not allocated to each component of the assignment, but are awarded in total. A tentative point total or base score will be assigned to the paper, with your presentation being an adjustment of that score. Your peers may be asked to assist in the evaluation of the presentation and you may be required to complete evaluations of your colleagues’ presentations. It is expected that both components of the assignment will be substantive, articulate and informative. Style, neatness, and quality of source materials will be considered in the evaluation, as well as spelling and grammar.If you do not make the presentation or write the paper, you will receive ZERO points for this assignment. In other words, both of the components must be completed to receive a score for the assignment.