FS1010, Term Paper Guidelines

Family studies

Skill building: written communication, research, analysis, citation

**Read all the directions for best possible outcomes.**

Papers are to be submitted through OWL (Assignments tab in Owl). The site closes at Midnight on the due date and anything after that is five points off, and another for each day late.

Your final paper will be a maximum of 7 pages long. Double spaced Times New Roman font size 12. Reference page and Title page DO NOT count toward the 7 pages. Include page numbers.

**Assignment Details:**

Structure

* Introduction, where you identify the issue briefly and tell me what you will be doing in the paper (roadmap). Thesis
* Body, where you describe the issue more carefully and explain it, using the text. The last part of the body is the extrapolation into the realm of public policy, law, institutional practice, etc.
* Conclusion, where you summarize what you did in the paper and your recommendations.
* Reference page, where you list in APA style your reference.

Reminder: analyzing from a social science perspective is different than making judgements or expressing feelings, like “our family has good morals,” or “he was a bad father.” Analyzing means trying to interpret and explain information. Your text is your analysis guide. Your job is to take a statement and explain the how and why of it, then to consider the future implications. Analysis is delving deeply into a topic , not just summarizing or presenting assumptions .

**Write about :**

Using a family presented in a form of media (a movie, television show, documentary, book, etc.), Who is in the family? Is it easy to tell?(for example Kardashian family )

* Use academic language to *describe* the situation.
* Look for an associated theory, like stress theory or mate selection or child socialization, to *explain* the situation.
* You’ve identified an issue or topic from the family, you’ve described and explained it with the text and research, next comes *extension*. Can you apply a theory and describe its relevance? Can you make recommendations for changes in public policy or laws, or the practices of institutions like child or elder services or immigration services or religious organizations or schools, that could make people’s lives better?
* **Use three or four theories to focus one and to relate it to a family and apply those theory to this family .then make recommendations for improvement .**
* **Theories are in the PowerPoint , understand the theories first and then pick up the thoeries that are most related to the family that you picked .**
* **Theories are (structural functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interactionism ,feminist theory , system theory ,exchange theory ,ecological theory , and development theory ) see the powerpoint .choose 3 that are most related to the family that you are choosing to write about .**

You can flip through the textbook and find a topic/theory that matches the content closely and use that to create your own discussion and analysis (like the family stress and violence chapter, the mate selection chapter, etc.).

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**Structure :**

Introduction, where you lay out what you will do in the paper.

Body of the paper, logically organized with good flow between paragraphs (don’t forget transitions).

Conclusion, where you tell me what you did in the paper and what any future directions or recommendations might be that logically arise from what your discussion and analysis in the paper.

Please do not worry about the 3 paragraph body style paper, thesis statement, etc.

I do not want fancy, word-heavy, adjective-laden writing. I want a clear, easy-to-read paper with paragraphs and sections put in an order that makes sense. You can use subheadings.

First person writing is not appropriate for non-personal parts of a paper.

Papers are to be written individually, and any work that is not your own thought (textbook, Google search, Wikipedia, other website, etc.) must be cited.

**Citation:**

Please cite all of your work. Do not copy papers or sections of papers from other classes, other students, books, websites, etc. Turnitin will flag content that matches other students’ papers and other authors’ work and the mark could be a ‘0’ as a result. Cite all information that is not your own, including: the textbook, websites, research articles, television shows, documentaries, newspaper articles, etc.

My expectation is that any idea that is not your own will be cited. Additionally, an A paper typically has 4-6 academic citations attached.

And then you include a reference page like this at the end of the paper (**APA style ).**

**Very Important things :**

* need introduction and conclusion **very clear (clear thesis which means what are you arguing )**
* **7 pages (double spaced )**
* **6 references of high academic standard and intext citation**
* **Excellent use of grammar**
* Consistently clear, concise, well organized. Points were easy to follow because of the organization. Transitions between sections smooth and coordinated.