**ECONOMICS RESEARCH PAPER**

This semester you will be writing a 6-8 page research paper.. This paper will explore an area of Economics that interests you and will be persuasive in its nature. There will be several benchmark due dates before the final draft is due which are listed below. All of the information needed to write this paper is included within this packet. Be thorough and deliberate about following instructions and understanding the rubric.

Your Essential question must center around one or more of these themes.

**Topic Themes to Choose From:**

1. Race
2. Inequality
3. The Environment

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **DUE THIS DAY ON CANVAS** | **POINTS** |
| JAN 26 | 3 ideas for paper | 3 |
| FEB 12 | Essential Question | 5 |
| FEB 21 | Bibliography | 10 |
| FEB 26 | Introduction + Thesis | 15 |
| MAR 23 | Rough Draft (2 Hard Copies) | 20 |
| MAR 26 | Peer Reviews (Hard Copies Only) | 10 (5 EA) |
| APR 30 | Final Draft (1 Hard Copy) | 100 |

**ABSENCES AND LATE WORK POLICY**

* Kairos, Athletics, and Workload Disclaimer – Extensions will NOT be given on this project. You are being given this [project with plenty of time to accomplish each benchmark – if you are going on Kairos prior to something being due then you should take care of the assignment well ahead of time.
* All late work will be penalized 2 points per day that it is late. Any submission over 5 days may not be accepted.
* If you are absent the day of a submission due to illness you may receive a one day extension with a parents note.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**FORMAT REQUIREMENTS**

* 6-8 pages double-spaced
* Size 12 Font – Times New Roman
* Normal 1” Margins
* Single Sided Final Draft
* MLA Style Citations and Works Cited

**WRITING MECHANICS**

* No Questions (Who will answer it?)
* No Contractions (Don’t, Wouldn’t, etc…)
* No First or Second Person (I think, you should, etc…)
* Avoid conversational language – keep it formal (It was like… or what was really interesting was…)
* Avoid repetitious writing (Topic sentences, phrases, same word twice in one sentence)
* Read it out loud – awkward sounding phrases/sentences distract from the understanding

**CITATIONS**

* MLA Style
* At least one citation per paragraph
* Works cited numbered and in alphabetical order
* Separate page for Works Cited
* All sources must be cited in your paper

**FORMAT**

**Cover Page**

Title

Sub-Title

Name, Date, Class

**Introduction**

1 - 2 Paragraphs

Grabs Readers Attention Immediately

Builds up to Thesis and

Leads reader on and tells them what to expect

Ends with Thesis in **BOLD**

**Background**

1 – 2 Pages

Give context about your topic/argument. Your chance to give the reader the information they need to understand your argument.

Events leading up to said topic or event

**Analysis**

Majority of Paper

Proves Thesis

This is where you should use the majority of your quotes

Make connections between documents and the point you are proving.

Elaborates upon sources and tells the reader about their significance

**Conclusion**

Summarize your paper in 1 – 2 Paragraphs

Provide Closure

Possible re-use of thesis – must reword

Leave reader with something new to think about regarding your topic

Use partitions to segment your paper – consider them subtitles to inform the reader of transitions of topics that are taking place. Partitions should reflect the material being focused on.

**INTRODUCTION**

* 1-2 paragraphs long
* Thesis Highlighted in Bold
* Interesting unique hook to start introduction – make the reader intrigued
* Provide context and basic information of argument and paper
* Introduction should all build up to your thesis
* Thesis is your stand-alone statement – If the reader only read these 1-2 sentences of your paper would they know what your argument was?

***EXAMPLE***

**The Fire**

“I learned a new sound, a more horrible sound than description can picture. It was the thud of a living, speeding body on a stone sidewalk. Thud. Dead. Thud. Dead. Thud. Dead.” London G. Shepherd reported the day after the fire. On March 25th, 1911, three stories of the Triangle Shirtwaist factory, on the corner of Greene Street and Washington Place, burned down. Only when it started, there was no escape. That day, as on all working days, the owners of the factory kept the exits locked at all times during the workday to keep the employees from leaving. The partners Harris and Blanck were in the building at the time of the fire, and after being alerted, conveniently climbed over nearby rooftops to safety. In contrast, the men, women and children laboring there had few options. The first few were able to run down fire escapes. But these broke. With virtually no other option, workers leapt to their deaths nine stories down onto the pavement. As a result, 146 were found dead and even more wounded. The next day, New York was in outrage.2

New York City of 1911 had little government regulation and no labor laws. Owners of sweatshops could take advantage of women and children by forcing them to work as many as fifteen hours a day. These were protested in the 1909 during the Ladies Garment Workers’ Union strike.  In response to the protests, several sweatshop owners changed their oppressive practices.  However, Harris and Blank refused to make any changes in the workplace. After the fire, public outrage led the US to take a harder look at factory practices. **The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire proved a pivotal event for political and social reformation of workers’ rights and building codes in the United States. It sparked an era of reform for building codes, labor laws, and social equality of men and women.**

**BACKGROUND**

* 1-2 Pages of context and/or history related to your topic
* What does the reader need to know to understand your thesis?
* Explain key concepts or theories if needed

***EXAMPLE***

**Behind the Scenes**

By the turn of the nineteenth century, New York was the center of innovation and industry. With Henry Ford came the assembly line and cars became major means of transportation. Skyscrapers popped up on the streets, beginning the creation of the New York City skyline known today. With the modern day multi-story buildings came the rise of factories, and more specifically sweatshops. Sweatshops were characterized by long hours of labor with poor working conditions and subsistence pay. Run by “The Kings of Shirtwaist” Isaac Harris and Max Blanck, the Triangle Shirtwaist factory was the quintessence of the kind of sweatshop emerging in urban centers around the United States.3

In New York, a high demand for work brought Chinese, Mexicans, and Europeans to leave their home countries for new opportunity. Immigration, moving permanently to a foreign country, revolutionized the United States during its industrialization. Europeans, Chinese, and Mexicans fled their homelands to live in the land of opportunity. Inspired by the overcrowded farms and land, a handbook written in Norway urged its citizens to move to the United States where cultivable land existed in excess. In Ireland, fifty percent of the population ate only potatoes, and when the entire potato crop was destroyed, many left. Not only did immigrants move to the United States for their own benefit, but to send money to family back home. Unfortunately, although hard working immigrants created the backbone of the country, they became stigmatized with the rise of an anti-immigration movement. And it was these immigrants that worked in sweatshops like the Triangle Shirtwaist factory.4

**ANALYSIS**

* 2-4 Pages
* In-depth dive into your argument
* Your attempt to prove your thesis through thorough explanation and evidence
* Should be a blend of material – use quotes, statistics, and references in addition to your original thoughts and understandings.
* Make connections between materials and demonstrate your ability to think critically

***EXAMPLE***

**Reform**

Insurance companies supported the enforcement of building codes, because they constantly had to pay out many families lost lives due to bad architecture and conditions. Because of the insurance companies support and pressure, government reformed the codes even though big business was against it. The National Women’s Union League (NWTUL) was able to respond immediately after the fire by collecting evidence to back their protests. They sent out surveys to the working class, documenting stories of unsafe conditions in factories. Persuaded by reformers, the New York City government appointed a new board to make changes to the Municipal Building Codes. It became necessary for all factories to have safe stairwells and fireproof materials. The firehoses had to be lengthened to reach the tallest building in New York. After a cigarette was thrown in the trash can and started the Triangle Shirtwaist fire, smoking was prohibited in all factories. Doors had to open outwards, increasing efficiency in exiting the building in an emergency. While New York City was instituting new reform, workers in other cities around the US heard about the change through yellow journalists and other reform-minded reporters. In turn, a reform movement spread throughout the states, inspiring workers to demand new building codes in their own cities.13

**CONCLUSION**

* 1-2 Paragraphs long
* Summarize your paper
* Focus on your topic sentences and thesis
* Finish with a new wrinkle or twist that was not presented already in your paper

***EXAMPLE***

**Now and Then`**

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire is easily one of the most influential events of American history. In the wake of 146 dead and even more injured, workers in New York demanded reform. Spearheaded by activists like Frances Perkins and Carrie Chapman Catt, New York City began to transform its building codes and working conditions.

However, working conditions in other parts of the world are not yet up to par. Almost exactly one hundred years after the Triangle Shirtwaist fire, a very similar fire erupted in Bangladesh. Just after the Bangladesh fire broke out, managers with oppressive practices similar to the Triangle Shirtwaist owners, told the workers to ignore the alarm and continue working. The fire spread and it was soon too late. Workers, mostly young women, had no option but leap to their deaths stories below. American companies such as Walmart claimed to not have known their products were made by workers under the conditions at the Tazreen Fashions factory. Nonetheless, the Tazreen fire was the first garment industry case where authorities prosecuted the owners. Slowly but surely, the entire globe is reforming, arguably sparked by the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire and its first impacts inside of the United States.14

**SOURCES**

* When picking sources, it is important to be critical of the ones you choose to use, because after all they are what make your argument valid.
* For this project every source should satisfy this question: ***Does this source appear trustworthy?***
* You are required to use at least 10 sources for this project. You can certainly use more.

Use our Library Research Databases

* + EbscoHost
  + World History in Context
  + JSTOR
  + SIRS

Use Periodicals and Publications

* Economist
* Foreign Affairs
* Time
* National Geographic

**Good**

* Ends in *.edu / .org / .gov*
* You can identify the author
* Newspaper or journal article
* Affiliation with a University
* Secondary sources cite their references
* Has the appearance of a scholarly piece of work
* Videos and pictures from the era
* Statistics and Graphs

**Bad**

* Wikipedia
* Ends in *.com / .net*

**(**not to say all websites are bad but you must be overly critical of them and without a doubt know it is trustworthy)

* Blogs
* No Author
* Unidentifiable

**CITATIONS and WORKS CITED**

We will use MLA Style for this paper

**CITATIONS**

Citations need to be in-text parenthetical citations using the Author-Page Style (see example below)

MLA format follows the author-page method of in-text citation. This means that the author's last name and the page number(s) from which the quotation or paraphrase is taken must appear in the text, and a complete reference should appear on your Works Cited page. The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase, but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence. For example:

* *Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings"(263).*
* *Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).*
* *Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).*

**CITATION RULES**

* Every paragraph, excluding Introduction and Conclusion, MUST have at least one citation (ideally more).
* Every quote needs to cited immediately
* All periods come after the parenthesis
* All Sources must be cited within your paper

**ANNOTATED WORKS CITED**

* Last page of your paper
* Label the page Works Cited
* Single Space each entry with a space in-between each entry
* Number your entries in Alphabetical order
* Annotations should be bracketed and be 1-2 sentences long

1. Berrey, Ellen. "Sociology Finds Discrimination in the Law." Contexts, 2009, pp. 28, SIRS Issues Researcher, <http://sks.sirs.com>.

[Article discusses why workplace discrimination persists despite civil rights reforms, while connecting employment discrimination and racism with sociology.]

1. Casey, Joan A., et al. "Race/Ethnicity, Socioeconomic Status, Residential Segregation, and Spatial Variation in Noise Exposure in the Contiguous United States." Environmental Health Perspectives, vol. 125, 25 July 2017, pp. 1-10. EBSCOhost, <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=124428640>.

[Research report evaluates the effects of housing segregation on communities of color, including the concentration of poverty, lack of economic opportunity, and lack of political power.]