"Problem Assignments"

Assignment A (Emily Hampton & Kathryn Ryberg)

Research Proposal:

Topic: Develop a research proposal for a project that explores a cause, experience or consequence of modern globalization.

Possible topics include the globalization of:

McDonald's (fast food)	Coca-Cola	(Starbucks) coffee
iPods or iPads	computers	Olympic Games
terrorism	oil/gas	French wine or cheese
pop music	social media	English language
Disney	supermarkets	American dollar
bananas	oil	chocolate
soccer	baseball	Amazon
climate change	disease	poverty

Objective: The assignment pursues two objectives. First, it introduces students to the skills needed for successful research at the college level. Second, it provides students the opportunity to examine in detail the history and dynamics of contemporary globalization while exploring a topic of their choosing.

Content Requirements: Each project should address the following:

- 1) the **history** of the chosen object or idea (i.e. where it came from, how its global demand grew, the path of its global expansion, where it has been (is) popular or unpopular, etc.)
- 2) the **significance** of the object or idea in *at least 2 countries in addition to the country of origin*. For example, compare the *meaning* of McDonalds in the United States and two other countries. Who eats at McDonalds in different countries and why?
- 3) the **reasons for** the object's or idea's **global popularity or influence**. Here you must make an **argument supported by your research** to explain how and why your particular topic has become a global phenomenon. This argument should guide your entire project, and its development should occupy the largest section of the proposal.

Formatting: All submitted components of the research proposal must be typed (via computer) and should use 12-point Times New Roman font. In addition, the annotated bibliography must be double-spaced and should feature properly formatted footnotes for all citations. All components must be stapled (when relevant) and printed on clean, unfolded paper. Work that does not feature the required formatting at the time of submission will be considered late and will require revision.

Project Deadlines: The project proceeds in several steps and requires students to develop and adhere to a research calendar from the beginning of the semester. A successful project requires completion of the following tasks by the stated deadlines:

1) **Topic Selection (Sep 25):** Based on the initial course discussion on globalization, their review of the course texts and the above list of possible topics, and their own reflections on

globalization, students should work with the instructor to *identify three possible topics for their paper*. Topic selections should be typed, feature students' names, and be labeled "Research Proposal: Topic Selection." Students must bring their Topic Selection to class on Sep 25, when the class convenes in the Library – Room 1022.

2) **Research Proposal (Oct 4):** After selecting their topics and attending the library orientation (in class on Sep 25), students should prepare a formal research proposal that includes the following:
- 1) Topic Choice and Preliminary Paper Title
- 2) Preliminary Research Question and Thesis
- 3) Preliminary Bibliography **(First see: http://hood.libguides.com/fys/assignment)**
- 4) <u>Signature from the reference librarian with whom you worked to prepare the proposal</u>

The bibliography should feature 8-10 titles (beyond those listed on the syllabus) from academic monographs and articles **and** reputable journalistic publications and will require visits to the library and, possibly, the use of inter-library loan. Students will need to schedule a meeting with the reference librarian to prepare the proposal. Plan accordingly. No more than 6 on-line sources from established academic or journalistic sources are allowed. Complete bibliographic citations with proper formatting are required. See the Turabian manual for guidance with citations. **If sufficient material is not available on a given topic, students should be prepared to pursue one of their other initial topic selections.**

3) **Revised Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography (Nov 6):** Submit a revised research proposal that reflects attention to the feedback from the instructor provided on the proposal submitted on Oct 4. The revised research proposal should include the following:
- 1) Topic Choice and Final Project Title
- 2) Final Research Question and Thesis
- 3) Annotated Bibliography (8-10 titles)
- 4) <u>Signature from the reference librarian with whom you worked to prepare the proposal</u>

Note that the revised research proposal requires an annotated bibliography for each of the sources listed in the proposal. For each title listed in the bibliography, students should provide a complete bibliographic entry and write a brief paragraph in which they summarize the subject and central argument. In addition, the paragraph should clarify how the work connects to a student's research question. See the following site for specific instructions: http://hood.libguides.com/fys/assignment. More details about the annotated bibliography will be provided in class.

4) **Final Presentation (Dec 11):** Each student should be prepared to provide a brief (2-3 min) discussion of their proposed research question, thesis, and sources. Visual aids are not required but may be used as long as they do not extend the length of the presentation beyond 2-3 minutes. Presentations should be concise, polished, and professional. Students should avoid reading notes verbatim and should demonstrate mastery of the topic on which they have spent the past semester working. The presentations will form part of the broader closing discussion on the meaning and importance of globalization in today's world.

Assignment B (Caroline Eckardt)

Nutritional Supplement Research Presentation

Each student must select one performance enhancing, or weight-loss nutritional supplement, from the list provided, and give a class presentation on your chosen supplement that includes:

1. Title slide
2. Overview slide
3. Background slide
4. Pubmed hits w/search terms
5. Expert author for this supplement
6. Supplements active ingredient(s)
7. Marketing claims (what does the manufacturer claim the supplement will do?)
8. <u>Scientifically documented</u> bioenergetic or physiological mechanism of the active ingredient
9. Scientific support, or lack thereof, that the supplement does what it claims to do, w/figures or tables, for 2 to 3 different studies
10. Explanation (IF NECESSARY) of how the marketing claims for this supplement tie into the scientific support for the active ingredient
11. Scientific support of risks and side effects of using the supplement
12. Your best advice regarding the use of your supplement based on the available research on the topic
13. Reference List (with complete reference information). References MUST also be included at the bottom of each slide (not animated), with the first authors last name et al., *the journal title abbreviated*, and the year. Internet references are not acceptable. Must be peer-reviewed journals.

This project will be graded subjectively by the instructor on the effort that you put into researching (exhausting the literature), and on your subsequent UNDERSTANDING of the cellular mechanisms of how your supplement is proposed to work, the safety of the supplement, and the supporting (or lack thereof) scientific evidence that the supplement actually does what they claim. Also, your grade will be based on how well you follow the formatting listed above, and how well you prepare your slides to be UNDERSTANDABLE to your listeners (i.e., animations, figures, tables, mechanisms, data, etc.). You will be required to email your PowerPoint presentation to me the night prior to your presentation date. Please note that you need to really understand the scientific literature on your supplement (i.e., cellular mechanism of your supplement, supporting data, risks, etc.).

Only above average efforts will be given above average grades. For example, if it is apparent that you did not exhaust the literature, and you used some non-reputable sources off the internet, and you copied and pasted information from your sources, you will be given a below average grade, such as a C or D. Please be sure to EXHAUST THE LITERATURE, and UNDERSTAND how your supplement is proposed to work, as this is the PRIMARY FOCUS of this project.

Exhausting the Literature

- Access the **PubMed** database through the **SU Libraries' website** (http://www.salisbury.edu/library/) or the **Health & Sport Sciences LibGuide** (http://libraryguides.salisbury.edu/health-sports-science).
    - Why start with PubMed?
        - **PubMed** contains over 26 million citations to the most up-to-date biomedical literature published. But be aware- PubMed is an *index*, meaning it will contain the citation information for articles, but not necessarily the full-text (PDF copy) of said articles. For many citations you find, you will need to seek the full-text of those articles through other means.

- Perform various *keyword* searches, trying different keywords to find pertinent publications that can educate you about your topic. When developing your keywords, remember to think both broadly and narrowly about the topic you are researching. Create a research log and record the specific searches you perform (i.e. the actual keywords that you used) and the number of hits that you get with each search.

- Next, select all of the titles that you may be interested in by checking the box to the left of each title, then select "ABSTRACT" from the FORMAT drop down menu towards the top-left of the page. This will bring up the abstract summaries for each title that you have selected.

- Print all of your abstracts by using the SEND TO drop down menu towards the top-right of the page. Select "FILE" if you want to print the abstracts. Select "E-MAIL" if you would send the abstracts to yourself, then enter your email address. You may want to do both.

- Now you will get the entire manuscript of each article that you want.
    - It is possible that full-text access to some articles will be available through PubMed. If full-text is available, this will be indicated with the phrase *"Free PMC Article"* underneath the article's abstract. Select the free full-text option offered to you and print/download the article.
    - For those articles not available through PubMed, you will need to search for these through the SU Libraries' website with a tool called the **Citation Linker** (http://sfx.umd.edu/su/cgi/core/citation-linker.cgi). Using the citation information provided to you from PubMed, fill out the information needed and select "Find Article." The Citation Linker will search for where we have access to the particular title you're seeking. If we have access, a link will be provided to you; if we do not have access, you will be able to request the article through *interlibrary loan* (a link will be provided through which you can request the article). You will be notified via email when the article you've requested is available and ready for download.

- Once you get your hands on several publications, begin looking through the reference sections for more articles, studies, and papers. Highlight the ones that you want, and search for those titles through the SU Libraries' website, or the *Citation Linker* tool.

- Also be sure to look through both original research articles and review papers. Five or six **original articles** and four or five good **review papers** will go a long way in educating you about your topic, but the students who do the best projects read just about everything there is available on a particular topic.

- Do not limit yourself to just **PubMed**! Also consider the following databases:
    - **SPORTDiscus**
    - **ScienceDirect**
    - **Web of Science**
    - All databases can be accessed on-campus and off-campus through the SU Libraries' website, as well as the **Health & Sport Sciences LibGuide**: http://libraryguides.salisbury.edu/health-sports-science

- Your overall goal is to find the (an) expert in the field with your topic, and get several publications from him/her. You want to find the best publications from the most reputable journals. If you need help, come see me or the **HSS liaison librarian, Caroline Eckardt.**

Assignment C (Gina Calia-Lotz)

BIO 204 Writing Assignment

For this writing assignment you will choose a disease or disorder that interests you. It can be something you or a loved one has. Research the disease (not Wikipedia) on reputable websites and make sure you cite the sources in the text of the paper and also with a reference page (APA style). There are several internet websites that provide reliable information. Most of these end in .org, .gov, or .edu. Use .com addresses with caution since they frequently have unregulated and commercial content. Do not use non-peer reviewed informational, or news articles.

The questions you will want to answer are as follows:

1) What is the name of the disease? Does it have this name for any particular reason? Are there certain demographic groups that have higher incidences of it? If so, why (if known).

2) What are commons signs and symptoms of this disease? How it is diagnosed? Are there certain lab tests that are used to diagnose it?

3) What is the mechanism of the disease? Review the normal anatomy and physiology and compare how this differs in a patient with this disease.

4) How is it treated/managed? Are there nonpharmaceutical options for it? If so, what are they?

5) If pharmaceutical therapy is used, identify the main medications and give their mechanism of action. It might be helpful to search the clinical pharmacology at http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/hp.asp

6) Is this disease fatal? What is the prognosis for a patient diagnosed with it? Why did you choose this topic?

This assignment is due by the last lecture class which is on Thursday November 29th.

HCC's library has excellent online databases for searching and locating journals. To search these go to http://www.harford.edu/library/articles/. You can then browse by journal name or subject. HCC's library also has several tutorials to explain how to do database searches, locate information on the internet, cite sources in APA format and avoiding plagiarism. To complete the tutorial click here or visit the HCC library homepage listed above.