

# **Instructions for Research Assignment**

Each student will complete one research assignment. This will be **TEN** double-spaced typed paper and will be worth one hundred (100) points. You should choose a topic that will allow you to relate it to a social problem or issue of some kind that we will cover in this course. Use the library and internet to find information on your topic.

For your topic, write a **ten-page** essay using **ASA** format which you will find on the course website.

Here are the elements necessary to get a full 100 points on your assignment.

(1) **TOPICS**: Choose two topics (one of your own, and one sociological concept: crime rates U.S. related to Merton's Structural Strain Theory. Relate the two together like a question and an answer (Your topic= Question, Sociological Concept= Answer).

(2) **PERSPECTIVE**: Choose a sociological paradigm/perspective as a lens to analyze your topic through

(3) Your **THESIS PARAGRAPH** should include:

- Your two topics
- How your two topics are defined
- What sociological perspective/paradigm you will use
- How the topics relate to one another through the sociological paradigm

(4) **FINDINGS**: Try to present the data or information you succeeded in finding just like you were talking to the class and making a presentation of some sort. Make sure to link the topic to a social problem. In this example, I want to link my findings on crime rates to a social problems concept of social deviance or demographics. I might report changes in crime rates over the past years, or maybe how certain types of crime rates have changed (murder down, robbery up?). You might also find a citation that suggests reasons for the changes in rates (population and demographic changes, more police on the street, etc.).

(5) **REFERENCES AND CITATIONS** used for this report: Provide citations and references for **ALL** of your works cited.

- You must have at least five sources (books, journal articles, and internet stats)
- Provide the sources at the end of the report in a references section
- Your sources should not be more than 10 years old.

**If you in fact provide me with all of the information that I have outlined above, in a clear and concise manner, you will receive one hundred (100) points for that assignment.**

# Internet Research Assignment

## Sociology 1: Introduction to Sociology

**Title**  
**by**  
**Your Name**  
**Sociology 1**  
**PIERCE COLLEGE**  
**Prof. Charles Levy**  
**SPRING 2016**

Title Page

**Introduction**  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005). Blah blah blah blah....  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005). Blah blah blah blah....  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Jones 2009). Blah blah blah blah....  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Levy 2009). Blah blah blah blah....

Page 1

Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005). Blah blah blah blah....  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Smith 2005).  
**Conclusion**  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005).  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005).  
Blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah. Blah blah blah blah (Fbi.gov 2005).

Page 10

**References**  
1. Smith, John. 2014. *Sociology*. New York: Random House.  
2. Levy, Charles. 2014. "Stuff." Maninsociety. <http://www.maninsociety.com/endoftheworld.html>. July 12, 2014.  
3. etc...  
4. etc...  
5. etc...

References

1. Choose 2 Topics, one of your own, and one you are trying to explain with the sociological idea.
2. Follow the instructions on the other Research Assignment Guide
3. Please do **NOT** plagiarize
4. Make sure you have citations and references for all quotes, facts, or paraphrases
5. You may only use Academic Journal articles, books and web-based statistical resources -- no newspaper, magazine, encyclopedia, dictionary, or television sources