Group Project Instructions

The Task
- In small groups, students will develop a sociological analysis of a specific issue of social inequality within a selected social institution in the contemporary United States.
- Each group member will contribute to the preparation and delivery of an oral research presentation, and assist in leading discussion activities for one designated class session.

The Proposal
- Topics for the project must be approved by the instructor after submission of the Group Project Proposal.
- Each group must submit one Word document file through Canvas by 5pm on September 21 that includes:
  1. **Group Roster**: include names, email addresses, and phone numbers for all group members.
  2. **Topic Statement**: state the preliminary research question that specifies the social issue and type of social inequality that will be examined in the selected social institution.
  3. **Scholarly Sources**: provide full citations in ASA or APA format for at least two scholarly sources (scholarly books or peer-reviewed journal articles) relevant to the research question.

The Outline
- The group must use the provided template to prepare an outline of the presentation and activity plans including the following information for each member of the group:
  - o the sub-topic that will be the focus of their analysis in response to the approved group research question;
  - o the theoretical perspective and three sociological concepts that they will use in their analysis;
  - o citations in ASA or APA format for at least two scholarly books or peer-reviewed journal articles relevant to their sub-topic.
- The group must submit the outline as a single Word document file through Canvas by 5pm on October 12.

The Presentation
- On the designated presentation date, each student will prepare a 5-7 minute oral presentation using at least two scholarly sources to respond to the approved group research question.
- The presentation must demonstrate sociological analysis through the application of sociological theoretical perspectives, theories, and concepts to interpret evidence found through library research.
- PowerPoint presentations and/or other visual aids can be used to support the presentation.
The Discussion

- The group must prepare class activities designed to encourage class participation and engagement with the research topic on the designated presentation date.
- Group members must also lead discussion of the reading assigned for the day of their presentation.
- Activities can include but are not limited to small group tasks, debates, and moderated discussions.
- The presentations and discussion activities must fill the entire 75 minute class session.

The Presentation Script

- The group must submit a printed hard copy of their complete, detailed presentation script to the instructor at the start of the presentation.
- The script must include full text for each individual presentation as well as discussion questions and instructions for all activities.
- The script should be typed, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins and standard font (preferred: Times New Roman, 12pt).
- All research sources should be cited within the text of the script, and in a complete reference page.
  - Citations can use ASA or APA format; only one style should be used consistently.
  - Newspapers, news magazines, and reputable websites can be used as supplementary sources.
  - Do NOT cite Wikipedia as a key source.

The Evaluation

- The Group Project will be evaluated on:
  - quality of the sociological arguments presented;
  - explanation and application of sociological perspectives, theories, and concepts;
  - effective use of research and empirical evidence to support the analysis;
  - planning and execution of the presentation and discussion activities.
- The project grade will include individual evaluations of each group member for their presentation in addition to an assessment of the group as a whole.
- Failure to contribute to the group will result in a zero for the assignment.
- If a student is absent on the day of the presentation, this will result in a zero for the assignment; exceptions will only be considered in emergency situations when medical documentation or notice from a dean is provided.
- Students with an excused emergency absence will have to prepare a 5-page paper as a make-up assignment to receive credit for the project.