

SOC 456/503 & POL S 528

Research Findings Assignment

Due Date:

Week 15, Thursday, December 9, 2021 by 11:59pm

Directions:

Please upload your assignment to the specified eClass assignment page. All assignments must be submitted as (at least) two files.

1. Parts 1, 2, and 3 should be uploaded in a single Word document (.doc or .docx).
2. File types for the fourth part of the assignment will vary.

Grading:

You will be graded on both the content and organization of the Research Findings Assignment. Content will obviously vary across project topics, but all assignments should address each of the four questions. They should also be well-organized and clearly written. The best assignments will present a clear and concise abstract, provide a thoughtful reflection on the course and project, and submit a knowledge mobilization component that highlights key findings from the project. As always, presentation matters for this assignment, so make sure to nicely format your text, tables, and graphs. Spelling, grammar, organization, and mechanics will be graded, so make sure to proofread. The Research Findings Assignment is worth 15% of your grade.

Research Findings Assignment

The Research Findings Assignment includes four parts – an abstract, a reflection on the course, a knowledge mobilization discussion, and a knowledge mobilization component.

1. Abstract

What are you studying? Why is it important? What do we know about this topic and what did you find in your analysis?

In Part 1, you will again review your research question and topic. However, this time, you will be submitting this in the format of an abstract. An abstract is a short statement that describes a larger study, project, or paper. It should address the scope, purpose, results, and contents of your project in 100-200 words. Abstract requirements for journals and conferences have strict word limits. Following such requirements, yours must be between 100-200 words.

2. Course Reflections

What were some of the most important things that you learned this semester? What will you take with you? What did you specifically learn in relation to your project?

In Part 2, you will reflect on the course this semester and your project. You should discuss at least one thing you will take away from the course this semester. This could be related to data analysis, research, or writing, for example. You should also discuss something that you learned from your project. This could be related to your research question, topic, or substantive findings.

3. Knowledge Mobilization Discussion

How will you be presenting your findings? Why did you choose this medium or method?

In Part 3, you will discuss how you are summarizing and presenting your findings. We often refer to this as knowledge mobilization. Knowledge mobilization is an important part of the research process. Very broadly, it involves the presentation and sharing of research findings and evidence with academic and non-academic audiences. Make sure to discuss how you'll be presenting your findings and why you chose that medium or method.

4. Knowledge Mobilization Component

What did you learn about the relationship presented in your research question? What are your key findings?

In Part 4, you will present your research findings for a general audience. This part of the assignment should incorporate findings from the literature and your data. For this part, you will submit either a draft Op-Ed, series of Tweets, podcast, or video that summarizes the key research findings from your project. This is an opportunity to be creative and think beyond the typical ways that we present research. The goal is to present what you learned from your research and analyses in an interesting way.