

## **CRJ 693 – Spring 2015 – Final Project Timeline [Total of 80 points]**

The final project is broken up into several stages. I do this for two reasons: 1) it makes students not wait until the last second, 2) it allows me the ability to give feedback before the end of the semester. The hardest part is often getting started, if you have questions related to the project feel free to ask (in class or via email). I have knowledge of what is a feasible class project, as well as what types of data are available. So if you come to me with a general idea (before the deadlines) I can likely give immediate feedback as to the viability of your idea.

I expect these items to be turned in on time. I will not give partial credit for turning in these assignments late. Any assignment can be turned in early.

### *2/25/16 – Project Proposal Due [15 points]*

I expect the project proposal to be a summary of the research hypotheses you wish to assess. I also expect to have a list of actual data sources you will use to conduct the analysis and to make the maps. That is, not simply a data source you *wish* existed, but an actual data source you have access to. This should be short, likely only around one page.

The point of this is that I know that the project is feasible. It is not uncommon for students to want to examine some particular topic, but no secondary data sources exist, making the project impossible. This forces you to both pick a topic and know that there is information available to answer your research question.

### *3/24/16 – Annotated Bibliography of Two Relevant Prior Studies [10 points]*

For this assignment I want you to identify two prior academic studies that are relevant to your research question. I want you to describe the measures used, the spatial units of analysis, a description of quantitative analysis conducted, and a summary of the findings.

### *4/14/16 – Two Initial Maps [15 points]*

For this assignment, I would like to see two maps you will be using in your final project. This is to provide a critique of the maps in terms of visual aesthetics, and if need be suggest additional maps you may consider for your project.

### *4/21/16 – Presentation to the Class [20 points]*

You will be expected to give a short presentation (5 to no more than 10 minutes) to the class about your topic. All you need to do is introduce the research question, and present information that addresses that question.

The presentation can either be a printed out poster or a PowerPoint presentation. For advice on poster presentations (and PowerPoint templates) I recommend Colin Purrington's website, <http://colinpurrington.com/tips/poster-design>.

*4/28/16 - Final Poster/Short Paper – [30 points]*

On the last day of class, I expect the final project to be handed in. I will give you the option of either turning in a poster or a short paper. Unlike all other projects, this needs to be turned in electronically as a PDF – so that I may give it back to you with comments via email.

For either posters or the paper, you will likely need to cite relevant material. I prefer you use the APA citation format. There is no length requirements for the paper, but I expect there to be at least two maps.