**Writing Assignment #1a– Sustainable Consumption**

Due Tuesday, March 7, 2017

MAKE SURE TO USE GRADING RUBRIC AS A GUIDE

In the Modules, you have been assigned several articles that provide different perspectives on efforts to raise people’s living standards. Topics in the on-line lectures and readings include wealth disparity, poverty, and resource consumption.

Write an essay that essay that answers the following questions. What does the author of the NY Times article “What is your Consumption Factor,” Jared Diamond, argue needs to be done to solve the problems he identified? What evidence does he provide that his ideas would work? What weaknesses does his argument have? Your essay should both answer generally the questions about Mr. Diamond’s article and, as well as specifically relating your answers topics in other readings or material in the Modules. Strong essays should build not only upon Module readings, but also provide **analysis** from ethical perspectives, discuss resource use sustainability using the **definition of sustainable development**, integrate relevant insights from the lectures, such as the discussion of Thomas Malthus’s predictions, or other readings from the modules. Resource use could take many forms (material consumption in general, waste, mineral resources).

**Format and Style**

Your paper should be double-spaced and a maximum of four (4) pages using a standard Times 12-point font. Citations should be in MLA format and the list of references is not considered as part of the page limit. Good writing (TOPIC sentence, supporting sentences, supporting evidence) and grammar are expected. Since this assignment is not a personal narrative or opinion piece, you should avoid writing in the first person until the last part where you are encouraged to express your own opinion on this topic.

Your assignment should be submitted online through Canvas by 2pm on Tuesday, March 7th. Unexcused late work will be reduced by one letter grade for each day that it is turned in late starting at 2pm. Making-up graded work will only be permitted if the student has an “excused absence” as defined by University policies. If you have questions, you are encouraged to communicate with the course TAs and to set-up appointments at the University of Delaware’s Writing Center.

If you have questions, you are encouraged to communicate with the course TAs and to set-up appointments at the University of Delaware’s Writing Center (www.english.udel.edu/wc/).