

Electric Cars and the Environment

Research Project

Grace Yoder

POL 327

February 11, 2026

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Research Proposal

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In the United States, there seems to be a significant focus on electric cars as a partial solution to the disaster of internal combustion engine cars. My research will focus on whether or not this is an effective partial solution to climate change.

The focus will be on North America, Europe, and China. It will look at carbon production, resource extraction, and infrastructure impact. It will additionally look at the impact of legislation and tax credits on the adoption and overall impact of electric vehicles. The ideal time target to look at would be in the past 20 years. Key stakeholders include, governments, manufacturers, advertisers, resource providers, and consumers.

My research strategy going into this will be to search the Purdue databases for any studies relating to this information. Additionally, analysis of the policies by select nations may be helpful to understanding the patterns and trends. I may also look at cultural differences between nations as well. This research will not look at or determine if and how electric vehicles are functionally different and will focus on the climate impacts.

Rubric

Student name: Grace Yoder

Tentative title/subject: Electric Cars

Checklist Criteria

- ✓ Clearly identified problem/issue with clear and coherent reasoning for why it is relevant and/or has important implications for climate change politics/policy
- ✓ Scope and/or ambition of the identified climate politics research problem/issue and/or central research question(s) for this project are well-defined, manageable, and feasible within the guidelines and limits of the class
- ✓ Research strategy proposed is clearly and coherently defined/outlined and is appropriate for the defined climate politics problem/issue and scope/ambition of the project
- ✓ Potential resources and sources, challenges, and/or limits to the proposed research project and strategy are clearly and coherently identified and/or analyzed
- ✓ RP is well-written, well-organized and easy to read/follow, while following guidelines with little to no typos and/or errors

Additional Comments/Questions/Reflection:

None other than I am excited to do this project!

Research Journal

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2 Hours

Created documents and research proposal