

The Paper and Presentation
Econ 335
Professor Lakshmi K. Raut

Topic: The Good, the Bad and the Evils of NAFTA (North American Free trade Agreement).

Due date: May 11, 2004, in class. (no extension of time will be granted).

Guidelines for the paper

- Make the paper 5 to 7 pages long (which does not include tables, graphs and references but includes footnotes) written on one and half line spacing on letter size papers with one inch margin on all sides.
- Make your points and arguments very precisely.
- In writing your paper **you must** document your readings and the source of the statistics or indicators that you used to motivate the policy area that you decide to focus on. You can use footnotes or endnotes for your references. You must provide the url (i.e., <http://xyx...>) or if it is a published article, provide the proper reference. Points will be taken off if you fail to do this.
- You can discuss about your paper with any one you like, but make sure that you write the paper yourself and use your own words. If two papers read very similar, both papers will receive FAIL grade. If your paper reads very similar to any other papers in the internet, you will also receive a FAIL grade. I may use computer programs to check if the paper fails on either ground.

Structure of the Paper

- **Introduction:** Describe first briefly what is NAFTA, when was it introduced and what were the main agreements in NAFTA.
- Next section (choose your section heading): What are the main arguments for and against having NAFTA from the US point of view and from the point of view of Mexico and Canada. Focus on:
 - Free trade is better than barriers to trade – growth in GDP, social welfare, jobs created or destructed, and many others.
 - However, the benefits do not accrue to each group equally in all the countries. Describe which groups were to be affected in which country in what ways. What did they do to express their concerns (if you can find information about it).

- Give some predicted and actual estimates of the effects of NAFTA. (You may use some numbers from the Textbook, and from internet sources as well).
- **Conclusion:** Your overall evaluation the effect of NAFTA from the point of view of the US and Mexico.

Guidelines for the presentation

You are required to prepare your presentation using power point. You can organize your points according to above scheme, and prepare three to four slides and time your talk to five minutes. Your turn for presentation will be drawn randomly using a lottery system. I will prepare a random ordering of the presenters. You will have 10 minutes for your presentation.

You must participate in the class during all your classmates' presentations.

Important dates points distribution of the paper and presentation: May 4 and 6 mandatory meeting regarding paper and presentation. All group members should meet with me together and report your progress. During this meeting you should convince me that all group members are knowledgeable about the project, sufficient progress has been made, and you are doing the work instead of downloading a paper. 5 out of 20 points for the project will be based on this meeting. Furthermore, you will not get any points for the project, if you fail to meet with me and convince me that your group has made enough progress.

Paper counts 10 out of 20 points, and presentation counts 5 out of 20 points.

Submit a hardcopy of the paper, a floppy disk with your paper in Microsoft word or in pdf format and presentation materials right before the first presentation begins on May 11, 2004.