

Final Report for *Independent Research*

Each student enrolled in this course is required to write a 5,000-word *literature review report*, and to submit it on 10AM, 20th May, 2019, to Joyce Office (Room 840). No late submission (for whatever the excuses like "flash disk is not working, laptop broken, don't know the deadline") is allowed. [Late submission extension should be handwritten, stating clearly the reasons, and submitted to Joyce Office at least ONE WEEK before the deadline.](#) If there is no late submission application by 10 AM, 13th May, 2019, it is assumed that all students would submit their reports as scheduled.

- You can choose any topic covered in this course, and need to specify your title of the report. For example, title like "Research on International Finance" is too general, which is impossible to complete a literature review report within 5,000-word.
- The literature review should be print out in A4 paper, stapled on the left upper corner, with a *handwritten* individual assignment cover sheet.
- The report should includes *abstract*, with three *key words* separated by semicolon, *table of contents*, *body* with 5,000 words, and *reference list* in a sequential order.
- **Format requirements:** The font is "Palatino Linotype" for the whole report, including abstract, key words, table of contents, body and reference list. The font size is 12pt. Line spread is 1.10. Page number "x/xx" in the middle of the footnote, where the first x is the current page number, and xx is the total page numbers.
- **Reference requirements:** Students are required to use *Harvard Reference System*. **All** quoted reference in this report should be listed in an alphabet order in *reference list*. Missing 5 reference in *reference list* is considered as serious violation of *Academic Honesty Policy*.
- **Content requirements:** (1) Students are required to read at least 30 articles published by academic journals, for example, *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Finance*, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, and so forth. Articles in *newspapers*, *web sites*, or *blogs* cannot be quoted in this report. (2) In this report, students are required to report what kind of research of your field has been done recently. In this sense, at least **5-8 articles should be published in 2017 or 2018**. (3) In the *body*,

students are required to structure it as at least with three parts: (a) introduction, to state clearly what your research field is, with 300 - 400 words at most; (b) literature review; (c) concluding remarks, with 300 words at most.

Noted that

- If you choose any topic that is NOT related to this course (remember this course is conducted by Finance Faculty), your report is graded ZERO.
- Report that does not contain either abstract, key words, table of contents, or reference list could be deducted by 10 points.
- Report that does not follow *format requirements* could be deducted by 20 points. **Complaining print store has different version of word processor is NOT ACCEPTED.**
- Report that does not follow *Harvard Reference System* could be graded ZERO, because you violate *Academic Honesty Policy* of this University.
- Report that does not follow *Content requirements* could be deducted by 50 points at least.
- Student that either fails to submit the report, or fails to submit a qualified report could not have a chance for resubmission, but only to retake the course again.
- **Students who are absent from the last lecture (5th May, 2019) cannot use "I don't the requirement" excuse to avoid the aforementioned penalty.**

Problems and Pain

M. Scott Peck

Life is difficult. This is a great truth, one of the greatest truths, because once we truly see this truth, we transcend it. Once we truly know that life is difficult — once we truly understand and accept it — then life is no longer difficult. Because once it is accepted, the fact that life is difficult no longer matters.

Most do not fully see this truth. Instead they moan more or less incessantly, noisily or subtly, about the enormity of their problems, their burdens, and their difficulties as if life were generally easy, as if life should be easy. They voice their belief that their difficulties represent a unique kind of affliction that should not be and that has somehow been especially visited upon them, or else upon their families, their tribe, their class, their nation, their race or even their species, and not upon others.

What makes life difficult is that the process of facing and solving problems is a painful one. Problems, depending on their nature, evoke in us frustration or grief or sadness or loneliness or guilt or regret or anger or fear or anxiety or anguish or despair. These are uncomfortable feelings, often as painful as any kind of physical pain. And since life poses an endless series of problems, life is always difficult and is full of pain as well as joy.

Yet it is in this whole process of meeting and solving problems that life has its meaning. Problems are the cutting edge that distinguishes between success and failure. Problems call forth our courage and our wisdom; indeed, they create our courage and our wisdom. It is only because of problems that we grow mentally and spiritually. When we desire to encourage the growth of the human spirit, we challenge and encourage the human capacity to solve problems. It is through the pain of confronting and resolving problems that we learn. As Benjamin Franklin said, "Those things that hurt, instruct." It is for this reason that wise people learn not to dread but actually to welcome problems and actually to welcome the pain of the problems.