

# describe your research ideas;

[version: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2020 19:51]

1. Discuss your research ideas—as with final paper—it may be either your own research, or critique of others' research or both.
2. Focus on key research questions (which general and specific questions you want to answer), data used (at least what a suitable dataset would be; ideally give me the dataset name), significance (why is it important to study what you study).
3. I want you to think about research you want to carry out or critique you want to perform in this class for final project. So in this ps, you don't need a crystallized final idea, but i need to see some thought process and ideas. I will give you then comments which hopefully should help you move your ideas towards something manageable and executable.
4. No more than one page

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## general directions (always the same):

- ps is due in Sakai's dropbox
- keep it short; max: 5 single spaced pages; typically way less, say 1 or 2
- if you are stuck, email listserv early! also can email listserv if you want some feedback and make sure you are on the right track, etc
- show your work, a "naked" number won't do! unless indicated otherwise, always do calculations by hand
- likewise, numbers should be interpreted—we are not only interested in calculating values of interest, but we are interested in their meaning! whenever you calculate your final quantity if interest, interpret it!
- if your handwriting is bad, please type
- i may want to discuss your assignment in class, which should be beneficial to you and give you more feedback; if however, you'd like to keep it private, let me know!
- ideally you want to use this class to write a research part of your capstone
- think if you can engage civically—see section 'civic engagement component' in syllabus