Research Paper: All students must complete a research paper on a social problems topic. It may be a social problem not covered in class or a problem that we covered, but which you explore from a different angle or in more detail. Papers should be approximately 8 typed pages (Times Roman, 12 font; double-spaced) and must have the following:

- An introduction that 1) states why the problem that you have chosen is a “social” problem, and 2) provides a thesis statement in regard to the causes & proposed solutions to this social problem.
- A section in which you elaborate on the major causes of the problem and the empirical evidence that documents the importance of these reputed causes.
- A section in which you discuss proposed solutions to the problem. Have any of these solutions been tried? If so, to what extent were they successful?
- A bibliography with a minimum of 5 citations, at least four of which must be academic articles, books, or book chapters. You must use a consistent format that includes author(s), publication date, title, and publishing house. Also, you must use parenthetical citations in the text of your paper, such as (Smith, 1980).

The research project is a multi-step process, & each step is assigned a point value:

- Your introductory paragraph and a tentative thesis statement in regard to causes & solutions is due __________ (15 points).
- An annotated bibliography is due ________ (15 points).
- A bulleted outline of the causation and solution sections of your paper is due _____ (25 points).
- Your final research paper is due ______ (45 points).
Research Proposal Paper: A final paper will constitute 100 points of your grade. Summarize research on a topic related to one of the criminal justice subfield areas. You must have your topic/research idea approved by me in person prior to [blank]. Failure to do so will result in a 10% reduction in the grade of the paper. Final papers must be 9 1/2 to 10 1/2 pages in length (papers over 10 1/2 pages will NOT be accepted). Final papers must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, and double spaced with 1” margins (default on most word processor programs is 1.25” so check!). Students must use APA appropriate reference citations and sources must be listed in a reference page. You must have a minimum of five sources. All sources must be a journal reference from a refereed academic journal (i.e. Justice Quarterly, Law and Human Behavior, Criminology, Psychology, Crime and Law, etc.). If you have a doubt or question, just ask. Final papers must include a title page and reference page which will not count toward the page length. The final paper must also include a mock Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission. You DO NOT actually submit this to the university IRB. See http://[link] for information about what’s required for such a submission. This also does not count toward the final page total. Final papers are due on [blank] prior to the test. Failure to turn in your paper on time will result in a 10% reduction in the grade of the paper for each day it is late. More information will be distributed at a later date.
Psychology 101 Annotated Bibliography Assignment

Assignment:
Find a specified number of sources on a topic related to this course and write descriptive or evaluative annotations for each source. Use a consistent style format. Do not use any online sources. This assignment is due on the last day of class. This assignment is an important component of your final grade. Do not plagiarize. Use a font style that is easy to read.

An analytical or critical annotation not only summarizes the source and points out its distinctive features, it also analyzes what is being said.

For example:


This editorial from the Economist describes the controversy surrounding video games and the effect they have on people who use them. The article points out that most critics of gaming are people over 40, and it is an issue of age rather than the games themselves. While the author briefly mentions studies done around the issue of violence and gaming, he does not go into enough depth for the reader to truly know the range of studies that have actually been done in this area, other than to take his word that the research is unsatisfactory. The author of this article stresses the age factor over violence as the real reason for opposition to video games and stresses the good gaming has done in most areas of human life. This article is a good resource for those wanting to begin to explore the controversy surrounding video games. However, for anyone doing serious research, it would be better to actually examine some of the research studies that have been done in this area rather than simply take the author's word that opposition to video games is simply due to an issue of generational divide.
Historical cinema assignment

Assignment adapted from a similar one

What is it? The real circumstances behind a dramatization based on fact are often more complicated than can be portrayed in a 90-minute or even a 3-hour film. However, the only exposure most people may have to an important historical event probably comes through a TV show or movie, not through reading historical accounts from multiple perspectives. It is therefore important to be able to engage critically with dramatizations of history.

Parameters: You are going to compare and contrast the film version of an event to the actual events on which it is based. You will need to differentiate elements based on factual accounts from elements based on interpretation. In addition you will need to judge how much alteration to the historical narrative is justified in order to produce a good film or TV show, as opposed to what need not have been altered. You will need to watch a film, and then select appropriate historical readings that present the same event. You will need to write a 3-4 page essay that compares and contrasts the film and the historical readings. A bibliography, or list of resources used, needs to accompany the essay, citing both the film and the readings you consulted. The bibliography needs to be formatted according to Chicago style.