

Term Research Projects

With several classmates, you will prepare a group research report on a topic relevant to our course. The requirements will include both a written report and an in-class presentation.

The group project report should be a carefully researched and well-written analysis of the topic. The report should not exceed 15 double-spaced one-sided pages in length (inclusive of tables, footnotes and references). Please use a 12-point font.

Your report should be based on appropriate published research sources. This is wide open, but possible sources include articles in business or economics periodicals, popular magazine or business newspaper articles, publications from international agencies like the United Nations or the International Monetary Fund, publications issued by the national governments, internet sources, or economics text books or research monographs.

Research material must be given proper attribution in your report. See the format and attribution requirements below.

Your group project report must be submitted within one week following the day of your presentation, in both hardcopy and machine-readable form (Microsoft Word or PDF).

The in-class group presentation should last about 25 minutes. Each team member should participate in the presentation. Please provide us with an overview of the key issues you are trying to address, the research you undertook and your key results. You may use Powerpoint or provide sufficient copies of a handout for the class.

Grading

I will assign the same letter grade to all members of the project team. It is up to you to make sure everyone contributes.

Deadlines

Two weeks prior to your presentation: report outline with bibliography due.

One week following your presentation: final project report due.

Format and Attribution Requirements:

Your final report must satisfy the following requirements:

- 1] **Layout.** Your paper should have the following sections, in this order:
 - a) Title page
 - b) Executive summary (a half-page summary of your issue and conclusions)
 - c) Body of paper
 - [e] Endnotes, if not at bottom of text pages]
 - f) References
- 2] **Length.** Up to 15 double-spaced one-sided pages in length (inclusive of tables, footnotes and references). You must number your pages.
- 3] **Footnotes.** You must give proper attribution (citations) to your sources by providing complete footnotes for every significant fact, figure, idea or opinion that you take from another source.

Make sure that direct quotations are in quote marks, and footnote paraphrased material as well. Also footnote any tables or graphs that come from another source. Your footnotes can be at the bottom of the page or at the end ("endnotes"). They should indicate the author(s), article or book title, date of publication **and page numbers**.

You may use any reasonable format for your footnotes, but be consistent. An excellent book on English composition which includes a summary of one system of citation is Sheridan Baker, *The Practical Stylist*, 8th ed., Addison-Wesley, 1998. Or see one of the standard style manuals. Finally, you may follow the practice (used by most economics journals) of including abbreviated citations in the text itself, rather than in footnotes. See a major economics journal for examples.

- 4] **References.** (Bibliography) All of the articles, books, data sources that you have footnoted should also be listed alphabetically in a reference section at the end of the paper. You may use any reasonable citation style, as explained in the "footnotes" section, above.
- 5] **Typing.** Your paper must be typed or printed on a legible computer printer. Please use 12 point and include a 1.5 inch (3.8 cm) left margin and at least 1 inch (2.5 cm) for other margins.
- 6] **Correct, clean copy.** Your paper should be carefully written and edited. Please proofread it to get rid of typos.

Special Warning on Plagiarizing

Note that plagiarizing (using material created by another person without appropriate attribution) is a serious offence and will lead to a failing grade for your project. It may also lead to a failing grade for the course overall.

Topics for Fall 2009:

1. Prospects for eliminating global current account imbalances
2. Are capital flows good for developing countries?
3. The *Great Recession* and macro policy responses—rich countries
4. The *Great Recession* and macro policy responses—developing countries
5. The effects of war on the global macroeconomy
6. Is East Asia an optimal currency area? (Should they use a single currency?)
7. Will the Asian financial crisis be repeated?

I will give you a chance to express your preferences, and then I will assign the project teams. These are deliberately broad topics, and it will be important to narrow your focus to a small number of specific questions. Your group should meet with me before getting too far along on your project so that we can make sure you are on track.