

Essay Assignment: Analysis and Research

Choose a topic and discuss this with the instructor for approval (you **must** get instructor approval). Students may choose the same topic as that used for their in-class presentation.

1. Choose an issue confronting the international community, regional Intra-governmental organizations (e.g., NATO, the European Union), NGO's, or an issue regarding US foreign policy.
2. Start with some **background** (history, and recent events) and **justification** (i.e.: Why is this important? Why is there a controversy and/or sharp disagreement over the issue? What can be learned and generalized from looking at this?) for your topic. Consider: Who has a particular stake in this issue, in terms of ideology, partisanship, pragmatic self-interest, etc. Who tends to support one side or the other, and why?
3. Present a **detailed analysis at least two sides** of an issue; include further areas of study, utilizing multiple sources (books, articles, websites) that deal with the subject (and that present empirical evidence and arguments).
4. Utilizing your additional sources, further explicate each side of the issue. **Include any new developments that need to be discussed**, as well as **any evidence that has recently emerged** to support one side or the other.
5. Include the approaches, constructs and theories from D'Anieri, *International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs*.

In particular, include analyses from both **the liberalist vs. realist approaches/paradigms** as well as theories/foci under those paradigms that might apply. The alternative approaches of **economic structuralism, constructivism, and feminism** may also be utilized and discussed.

Also: apply **levels of analysis** and **relevant actors**.

Include other areas of relevance (e.g., globalization, nationalism, the environment) where possible.

6. After seriously addressing the topic, **include your own opinion** regarding the issue, and explain why you have taken that position.
7. Finally, include some **prescription** (what you think **should** happen regarding this issue) and some **prediction** (what you think **will** happen regarding this issue). You might want to present several **possible scenarios** of how things might play out.

All papers must be **typed, double spaced, 12-pt Times New Roman**. Please pay attention to proper grammar, spelling and sentence structure. (It is highly recommended that students take advantage of the Tutoring Center in the LRC on-campus.)

All papers **must have proper citation, including endnotes or footnotes**. This includes full and proper citation for internet sources. (Check out Easybib.com or similar useful tools.)

PLEASE USE SUB-HEADINGS!

The instructor is quite willing to meet with students to discuss their topics beforehand. But please **don't wait until the last minute!**

The instructor is quite willing examine rough drafts of papers **before the due date** (again, don't wait until the last minute!). Please make sure that such rough drafts do not include egregious spelling, grammar or typing errors. (Run Spell-Check ahead of time.)

Please refer to the ChatGPT addendum. **Include what ChatGPT produces for your inquiry with your paper.**