**HSP3O Culminating Assignment:**

**Conducting Your Own Social Science Research**



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**Task Overview: Due November 24th**

You will be given some class time to start your project and to conference with your teacher about your progress to get assistance and feedback. Primarily though, the project will be done outside of class.

The following project is to be done **independently** and will count for **20%** of your final grade. This project is designed to give you an opportunity to investigate an area of concern in the social sciences that is of particular interest to you. You should pick a phenomenon/trend/concept that you notice happening today (perhaps making you wonder: “why does that happen or why does this matter?”) that you can relate to concepts learned in class. Basically you will attempt to explain why this trend occurs from a social science perspective.

1. You will have a driving research question that will spark/fuel your investigation.
2. You will find out some information about your topic in relation to your research question (what are the facts and statistics? What are some ideas posed by anthropologists, sociologists or psychologists?)
3. Begin with a hypothesis to predict what the results of your social research will be. Conduct your social research by gathering data (you will do an experiment, a sample survey, interviews or observation).
4. Report your findings (what were the results?)

**Social issues/topics (here are a few suggestions):**

**\*If you want to do a topic that is not listed, run it by your teacher to see if it is a topic that would work for this assignment\***

* Substance abuse
* Learning
* Bullying
* Media Influence on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Socialization (in general)
* Gender and gender stereotypes
* Mental illness
* Conformity
* Violence & Dehumanization
* Stress
* Self-Esteem
* Relationship Abuse (spousal, child or elderly)
* Teen Pregnancy
* Group behavior
* Discrimination (cultural and/or racial)
* Social class
* Body image
* Culture
* Family
* Peer groups
* Ageism
* Education
* Religion
* Aboriginal culture, rights, or issues

**Further explanation and details on the next page…**

**HOW🡪 All steps/stages explained**

1. **Begin by choosing a social topic/issue that interests you.** Then devise some questions that you have about this topic or issue. Make your questions fairly specific. **Then after some brainstorming, narrow down your questions to ONE key question. This question will fuel your social research.**

**e.g.** Social topic/issue- Self – Esteem

* How do people get a healthy sense of self-esteem?
* Is self-esteem highly linked to are upbringing?
* Key question: Is our sense of self-esteem based more on our family upbringing or our relationship to our peer groups? Is it both?
1. **Do some prior research🡪 find out a brief overview of what has already been said about your topic/question.** Consult trustworthy sources and keep a record of the information you have found. You need to find both facts/statistics that relate to your topic/question, as well as an overview of what has been said by certain social scientists in general about the topic (either anthropologists, sociologists, psychologists or any combination of the 3).
	* **Facts and statistics can be taken from other sources and put in quotation marks to indicate you are directly QUOTING from a source and be clear about what your sources are. PROVIDE AT LEAST 5 CANADIAN FACTS/STATISTICS.**
	* **The overview of what has been said by social scientists needs to be summarized in your own words. This overview should be a minimum of 200 words and a maximum of approximately 300.**
2. **Conduct your social research and gather data. Determine first what research method(s) you will use. You must use at LEAST ONE. The ones to choose from that will fit the purposes of our assignment are:** an experiment, a sample survey, interviews or observation.

You need to accurately record your data using a tally, taking field notes, etc.

1. **Step 1 🡪 Clearly report your findings visually. You are asked to include at LEAST 2 METHODS of reporting your findings. Ways to report your findings include:** pictures,a tally, a t-chart, a graph (pie chart, bar graph, etc.), field notes (quoting from written observations you had), etc.

 **Step 2🡪 Summarize and analyze your data. Look at your results.**

1. Summarize- in approximately 50 words HOW you conducted your research and in another 50 words approximately, WHAT the results of your research were.
2. Analyze- Consider the following – Did your results match your hypothesis? Why or why not? Explain WHY you think the results were the way they were. What were/are the factors involved? Do you think your results accurately reflect what is true of society? Were any issues with the way you conducted your research? How would you do your research in an ideal situation if you were a true social scientist? **The analysis of your social research should be approximately 150 words.**

**See following pages for how you will be assessed in each category and a general overview of what your project will look like when put together.**

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| **HSP3O Social Science Research- Summative Project** |
| **Criteria** | **Expectations Not Met or Poorly Met****(Level 1)****50-59%** | **Approaching Expectations****(Level 2)** **60-69%** | **Expectations** **Met****(Level 3)****70-79%** | **Exceeding General Expectations****(Level 4)****80-100%** |
| **Knowledge**- Information is provided and accurate to show student’s understanding of what has already been said about the social topic/issue (facts, statistics, theories) **-**Information looks complete and whole (specific, not vague) /15 |  |  |  |  |
| **Thinking****-** Student has devised strong research questions to fuel their social research which are specific and clear -Student has chosen a research method(s) that are logical in relation to the type of question/social issue they are investigating-Hypothesis is clear and specific and is logical based on the previous research conducted by experts in the field  /15 |  |  |  |  |
| **Communication**-Information is summarized in the student’s OWN words, or accurately quoted, clearly communicating the main points -Student has edited their work for correct spelling and grammar, and any minor errors do not interfere with reader’s understanding of the materials -Student has included an appropriate cover page and has formatted the assignment correctly according to the instructions given **-**Parts of the assignment are labelled clearly and appropriately  /15 |  |  |  |  |
| **Application****-** Student has thoroughly explained through summary how they conducted their social research and visually shown what their results were -Student has thoroughly discussed their results of their social research and has successfully reflected on their findings by providing a full analysis  -A proper Works Cited page in APA format has been included  /15 |  |  |  |  |
| **Total: /60** |

**Format: all doubled spaced and APA format**

1. **Cover page—including a title and course information**
2. **Your research questions template filled out**
3. **1 page prior research report and a separate Works Cited page**
4. **Visually reporting your findings (graphs, charts, etc.)**
5. **Summarizing HOW you conducted your social research—what did you do?**
6. **Analysis of your findings (what were the results?)**
7. **Chekbric/Rubric**

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Ms. Rizzuti

HSP3C

November 24th, 2015

**Conducting Social Research: Investigating Canadian Culture**

**Research Questions Template:**

**Topic chosen: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**These are the following questions I had in relation to the topic of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

*
*
*

**My final key research question to narrow down my focus and to guide me with beginning my social research was:**

**My initial hypothesis is that:**

**Prior Research on topic of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Canadian Facts and statistics I found in relation to my topic are:**

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*
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*
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*

**Source(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Overview/Summary of information I found about this topic:**

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**Source(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Reporting my findings visually: (including my field notes, graphs and charts)**

**Field notes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



 **During my experiment, when at the movies I noticed…**

**Summary & Analysis:**

**Summary🡪 The way I conducted my social research was by creating a sample survey and I also did an experiment. With my sample survey, I included questions such as …….**

**For my experiment the way I set it up was ……**

**Analysis of my results🡪**

**When looking at the data I concluded that…….**

**My hypothesis was not quite correct because I saw that….**

**I think if I were to do this social research again I would change…… and I would add….**

**I think the results accurately reflect Canadian society in the way that……..**

**However, in one respect I don’t think it reflected our society because…**

**I think what we can learn overall from this social research I conducted is that when it comes to individuals and society………..**