I. Components of the Research Paper Project
The research paper project consists of 4 separate assignments:

a. Research Question: Paper Proposal — For this part of the assignment you will write a 150 word summary of your paper topic idea that begins with your research question. The document should include your name, date, class title and then your summary. **The paper proposal is worth 25 points and is due on Friday, 16th by 11:55pm.**

b. Bibliography: Your research paper bibliography should contain at least 10 sources (you may not wind up using all of them) in APA format. For a summary of guidelines on APA format, please visit the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) at [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/). To format your bibliography, pay close attention to reference list instructions at [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/). It’s extremely important for you to follow these guidelines. **The bibliography is worth 25 points and is due on Friday, May 30 by 11:55pm.**

c. Rough draft: Your rough draft assignment is a graded first-attempt at your research paper. While I don’t expect it to be perfect, I expect that you’ve adequately attempted to address each component of the paper (the components are listed below) and cited information properly. **Your rough draft is worth 50 points and is due on Friday, June 13 by 11:55pm.**

d. Final paper: The final paper should implement instructor-given feedback and be the most polished version of your paper. You should proofread carefully, check to make sure you’ve cited your information properly and have listed all references in the reference list at the end. The paper must also follow APA format guidelines, particular with regard to citations within the text of your paper. **Your final paper is worth 100 points and is due on Thursday, June 26 by 11:55pm.**

II. Elements of Your Paper
You will present a research question pertaining to the study of work and occupations by the Friday of the 2nd week of the session. Your research question should be clear and should be able to be explored by conducting a review of relevant research in the field. Overall, your 7-8pp. paper should present:

a. A clear research question;

b. Rationale – Why is it important to answer the question? How would it impact people to read your final paper?

c. Background and relevant literature: What are the themes in the literature, the debates, unanswered questions? Are there components of this topic people haven’t explored?

d. Discussion: What gaps still remain in the literature? Where future should future research be directed? How might people study this topic in the future?
III. Sample Topics (You’ll have to come up with your specific research question)

- alienation
- bureaucracy in work
- college and jobs
- combined individual and family life cycles
  - i. homemakers/home production
  - ii. sandwich generation
  - iii. empty nest/retirement
- discrimination in work
- fair trade
- free trade
- Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993
- household division of labor
- industry-specific issues:
  - i. agriculture – factory farming/corporate farming/agribusiness
  - ii. automotive industry
  - iii. mining/fracking
  - iv. textiles
  - v. forestry and environmental issues
- Lilly Ledbetter Equal Pay Act of 2009
- McDonaldization
- mergers
- minimum wage increases
- nation-specific work practices (refer to chapter 16 of your text)
- self-actualization in work
- service industry and service economy
- sexual harassment
- social mobility
- sweatshops
- technology in the workplace
- transnational/multinational corporations and labor (TNCs/MNCs)
- unions (specific unions: AFL-CIO, Teamsters, etc.)
- whistle-blowing
- work satisfaction