

Assignment 2: Resilient Cities (first Mini Project)

Learning Objectives: research, interdisciplinary

This assignment involves conducting research on a city, its resiliency, and changes at that location over time. It is expected that you use 1) your city's resiliency plan (see <http://www.100resilientcities.org/strategies/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.) and 2) outside sources to research your topics. You must cite your sources. You will use APA citation format and you must BE CONSISTENT when citing sources. Jessica O'Toole, the Research Librarian, will come to class and provide assistance but you are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to meet with or contact her for this and future assignments.

This assignment will have 2 components: an **individual** component where each student completes their own, unique work, and a **team** component where group members work together to complete one product.

INDIVIDUAL COMPONENT:

This is an **individual component and you need to turn in 1 document for each person**(via myWPI) that provides the annotated bibliography for your portion of the project. Put all of the citations in appropriate format (APA) using the information that the research librarian, supplied or a google search for APA citation format.

The expectation is that there will be at least 3 annotations of different, acceptable sources. Legitimate sources include the following:

1. Scholarly journal articles (i.e., a peer-reviewed academic journal article)
2. Popular press such as newspapers or magazines
3. Government, university, or professional association reports, extension papers, or websites
4. Books

Guidelines for annotated bibliography:

1. **Proper Article Citation:** At the top of each entry, you should cite the article according to proper APA style.
2. **Annotation:** The annotation should be given in paragraph form and should do three things. First, it should summarize the main point or argument that the source offers (and briefly discuss the support offered for it), Second it should assess/evaluate the source (How useful/important do you think the source is? Is it biased? How does strong is the evidence presented for the main point? Does it seem objective or biased?). Finally, you should say something about how this source does or would fit in to a research project on the topic you have chosen- in what way is it helpful? Does it lend support to your own view of the topic? Does it challenge or change your view? How and why?

For further instructions/information on writing annotated bibliographies (including examples) take a look at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

TEAM COMPONENT:

We have specific questions below that you must answer, but you are NOT limited to just those responses. Your responses to the questions should take the form of a **short essay** written in a uniform style and must be supported by evidence from scholarly sources. All sources for evidence, quotations, or paraphrased arguments should be fully cited (in text); citations should be in APA style. Reports should be about 5-7 pages (not including supplemental figures and bibliography). In addition, your team will **present your information** as a group to the class. Each group will have 5 minutes to highlight some of their most interesting findings.

Guidelines for the report's content:

Provide some basic information about the location. For example: Where is it located? What are the current demographics? How have demographics changed (what are the trends)? How are they expected to change in the future? What is the main economic source of this city? Has this changed over time, and if so, how? Why? What is the identity of your city? What is it known for? What is the biological/environmental significance of this city? How has the environment shaped the city?

Explain the main components that are targeted in your city's resilience plan. What challenges does the plan identify? What are the strategies the plan will use to address these challenges? How does this relate to economics, demographics, social dynamics, identity of the city, geography, environmental attributes, and so on? What aspects do you think the resilience plan lacks or does not address fully?

Considering all of the above questions, weave a narrative of your city that links causes and consequences of the factors above with the resilience plan and additional sources. Don't forget to support all information and claims.

Your team is required to submit one report and one presentation of the completed assignment on Canvas. Be clear in your communication about who will submit this ON TIME. Also, with this, as with ANY group work, EACH individual is responsible for the content that is handed in and each person should approve and have a copy of the final product that is to be turned in to be graded. In other words, if 1 person plagiarizes or turns in poor quality work for a section, the ENTIRE group gets the same grade (or further academic dishonesty penalties).

To help you write this assignment:

1. Your responses to the questions should take the form of a short essay.
2. You should make sure that your team's answers to the questions are written in a uniform style.
3. You should make sure that you have edited your response, that it is grammatically correct and free of spelling errors.
4. All citations should be in APA style.
5. You should cite (in text) anything that you use directly from your sources or that you paraphrase.
6. Your bibliography should include all references used in gathering your information.
7. In addition to your regular bibliography, each individual must turn in an annotated bibliography (that is the individual component of the assignment).

8. An authorship page should indicate some sense of the division of labor among the group members (could be framed as percentages out of the total work for the assignment, if you like). Alternatively, you may want to provide a listing of which research, writing, and presentation preparation contributions were made by each group member. Every group member must sign the authorship page, which can then be scanned and included as an image in the report document, or else as a separate submission.