Final Research Report Guidelines and Grading Rubric:

The better papers will be organized around a specific thesis statement and clearly and logically structured with an introduction, body and conclusion and it will address specific passages from your sources with citations included. It is a 3 page minimum paper (but your paper may be up to 5 pages) in Chicago Author Date format exclusive of title page and bibliography. A longer paper is not necessarily better if a thesis statement is not clearly stated and argued through your evidence that includes two scholarly sources. A good 3-page will also state a clear thesis statement and successfully argue that statement through your evidence. Remember from our earlier work that:

A thesis statement is:
1. Viewpoint or opinion – something in need of explanation or debatable
   a. a viewpoint is something in need of explanation that will be explained through grounded research and inquiry
   b. an opinion is an argument but grounded in research and inquiry

Think of your evidence as a narrative that will tell us the story why your thesis statement is explained or debated as true in your paper. Use your own words as much as possible. Insert your voice into the story. Own your story and have confidence in what you now know from your research.

Final Research Paper Guidelines

1. Title page that includes your title of your paper, your name, course and instructor name
2. 3-5 typed double spaced pages in 12-point font and no more than 1” margins. Double space between each paragraph and indent the first line of each paragraph 0.5.”
   a. Your first page should include an introduction that could include, along with your thesis statement. Your introduction may include (but is not required) an explanation of why you were interested in your chosen topic, or why this topic is relevant to your experience/personal identity, or why this topic is one of curiosity for your future exploration.
   b. Follow your introductory paragraph with a synthesis of the material you read for this paper. Do not just repeat facts. Think about what you read. Your narrative should have at least 8 in-text citations and 4 of them MUST be scholarly citations. Cite your evidence!
   c. A conclusion
3. A separate bibliography that includes at least four sources. Two of these sources must be from a peer reviewed journal article and/or a scholarly book
(and you must use them in the body of your paper and cite them at least twice for each source). The other two sources may be from the web or from an interview. These must be cited as well.

4. All in-text citations and the bibliography must be in Chicago Manual of Style Author-Date format (Citation Guides on Blackboard and your library course guide)

5. Correct spelling and grammar

**Grading Rubric:**

1. Evidence of scholarly source #1 – 25 points
2. Evidence of scholarly source #2 – 25 points
3. Evidence of 3rd source – 12 ½ points
4. Evidence of 4th source – 12 ½ points
5. Evidence of scholarly source citation in text at least 2 times each source - or 1 source once and the second source 3 times (4 citations total) – 5 points each
6. Evidence of additional third and fourth source citations in text at least 2 times each source - or 1 source once and the second source 3 times (4 citations total) – 3 points each
7. Evidence of correct citation and bibliographic style (Chicago Style Author – Date – guide posted on Blackboard) – 12 points
8. Evidence of correct spelling and grammar – 15 points
9. Evidence of 3 (minimum)- 5 (maximum) pages *exclusive* of title page and bibliography – 25 points
10. Evidence of inquiry of topic (thesis statement) – 10 points
11. Evidence of clarity of thought and development of Thesis statement – 45 points
12. Evidence of Title page – 2 points