

Case Study and Individual Presentation

Purpose:

The purpose of this final assignment is to give you a chance to apply your knowledge learned in the class to a “real-life” offender. During this course, you have been provided with theoretical perspectives applicable to offenders **as well as** their crimes. This is your chance to categorize a notorious offender, and essentially diagnose the reasoning behind their act(s) through the compilation of a case study report, and a presentation to your colleagues.

Case Study Report- Each of you has been provided with the name of a notorious offender. You are to research the crimes/offenses that each offender was convicted of, as well as those they were thought to have committed. Compile the information in a final report to be turned into your Instructor on the day of your presentation. The report should be at least seven typed pages and should consist of:

- a) A short section of background information
- b) A list and descriptions of crimes **convicted** of
- c) A list and descriptions of crimes **suspected** of
- d) A section on the theory that you feel best applies to your assigned offender (if the offender was presented as a case study in our class, how we would categorize/classify them). This section should be where you place the most detail (defending your choice of theories).
- e) A description of why you feel that the other theories are less applicable
- f) A bibliography sheet with your references.

If you feel that more than one theory applies to your offender, proceed with the same format on the theoretical components, just make sure to include a brief discussion explaining why you feel more than one theory applies.

Sample Paper Outline

- I. Introduction Paragraph
- II. Background of your offender- around two pages
 - a. Should include information you feel is pertinent (family background, marital status, etc.)
 - b. Suspected crimes
 - c. Crimes convicted of
- III. Applicable Theory- at least three pages
 - a. First describe/explain the theory you picked for your offender (or theories)
 - b. Tell the reader how the theory (or theories) you picked applies to your offender
 - c. Provide evidence (tie in the theory with your application section)
- IV. Inapplicable Theories- around two pages. This is additional evidence for why you profiled your offender the way that you did, so make sure that you spend a significant amount of time defending your position
- V. Conclusion Paragraph

I would suggest using headings in your paper so you clearly delineate your sections. It makes it easier for the reader, as well as for you when you are writing it. Also, make sure that you use correct grammar and run spell check on your paper prior to submitting it.

I am looking for the following:

- Knowledge of your offender/depth of research
- Understanding/application of your theory
- How you back up or defend your opinion/position

- Grammar/spelling accuracy
- Appropriateness of references
 - Do NOT use Google, wikipedia, or any opinion based websites
 - You may use googlescholar.com
 - Use academic journals (peer-reviewed journals) or books from the library for your references
 - Make sure that you use citations within your paper, or it is plagiarism, and make sure that your bibliography page follows APA or Chicago Style Format (website available in your syllabus and is provided within your Blackboard course site)

Individual Presentations- After researching your offender and compiling your case study report, you are expected to make an informal presentation to the class. This presentation will be given on the week before your final exam. Simply name/discuss your offender, their crimes, and which theory you think best applies. While this is not a formal presentation, the class/Instructor may ask you questions about your choice of theory, so be prepared to justify your decision.

Grading:

Each component (case study/individual presentation) is worth 50 points of your final grade, resulting in an assignment which will account for 100 points of your grade for this course. If you do not turn in your case study report or do your individual presentation, you will not be provided a grade for this course. Your individual presentation will be graded on: the substance/content of your presentation as well as your ability to defend your classification/categorization of your offender. Make sure that you have examined all of the theories covered in class, and are able to justify to the class why you have chosen that particular theory.

You are welcome to turn in a rough draft at any time so that I can help you with references, citations, and answer questions **prior to** your final grade.