

HUMBER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ADVANCED LEARNING

**Bachelor of Applied Arts: Criminal Justice**

**ASSIGNMENT SHEET**

<b>ASSIGNMENT NAME:</b>	<b>Research Paper</b>
<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>Social Problems in the Criminal Justice System</b>
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>Daniel Bear, PhD</b>
<b>DUE DATE:</b>	<b>Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017</b>
<b>SUBMISSION:</b>	<b>To be submitted on Blackboard AND on Turn-it-in</b>
<b>VALUE:</b>	<b>20% of final mark</b>

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**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this assignment you will have demonstrated the ability to:

- Identify and critically assess a social problem
- Evaluate the accuracy of media coverage of social problems
- Utilize theoretical frameworks to illustrate how social problems are defined and socially constructed
- Address the implications of this social problem at both the macro and micro level
- Develop practical solutions to a social problem you have identified.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Congratulations! You have landed a prestigious placement in a Ministry and are reporting directly to the Deputy Minister as their personal aide. Unfortunately your day just got very hectic... While reading the news on her phone on the way in to work this morning your Deputy Minister saw a very troubling story. She emailed you a link to this story and is demanding a briefing from you ASAP! Your job is to prepare a briefing note for the Deputy Minister to help craft options for how to respond to the situation in case she needs to present the issue to the Minister. Good luck.

1. Select a news story from 2015 or 2016 that appeared in a newspaper, magazine, or other written source (online is fine) that discusses a situation related to a social problem covered in this course before the reading week. (E.g. A story about a spike in murders in Canada in 2015 would relate to the topic of Crime and Violence in week 5)
2. Fill out the information sheet found at the end of this document.
3. Prepare a two page briefing note for the Deputy Minister.
4. In the 'Options' section of the briefing note you should present one option that looks good to the public but doesn't cost much and doesn't actually do much to alleviate the problem. Another option that is realistic, achievable, and probably

politically feasible, and finally a third option that probably not realistic, but is not limited by financial, political, or energy restrains.

- Ensure that in your final submission you include:
  - A title page with your name, professor's name, student number, course information, and date
  - A copy of the news story you based this assignment off of (full text and a link)
  - The information sheet (probably best to copy and paste the questions in to your new document)
  - The two page briefing note
  - Reference Page

#### FORMAT AND STYLE:

All assignments must be:

- 2 pages in length (excluding references, title page, information sheet, and news source)
- Use a minimum of 4 academic references
- Typed using 12pt Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins
- Follow the APA referencing format
- Follow the guidelines for a briefing note

Marks will be deducted for not following the above instructions and guidelines. The CJ Program policy on deadlines, grammar and spelling errors will be applied.

#### SUBMISSION:

- All papers will be submitted to the electronic drop-box through our course Blackboard website AND Turnitin

#### **Turn-it-in Information**

**Course code: 14243539**

**Password: ProfBear**

Turnitin.com uses textual similarity review to check for plagiarism. Please note that all submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the College's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. Plagiarism is a serious offence and can lead to significant penalties as stated in section 12 of the Admission Requirements & Academic Regulations for Degree, Diploma and Certificate Studies. Students are reminded that "not knowing" the definition of plagiarism is not an excuse. Students are encouraged to visit the Humber Library's plagiarism tutorial - You Quote It, You Note It at You Quote It: Interactive Plagiarism Tutorial

<http://library.humber.ca/tutorials/QuoteIT/index.html>

Circumstances may arise whereby a student must continue in a course despite their principled objection to participate in the use of such systems. In those cases, the instructor will provide such students with a reasonable offline alternative to using the system such as, but not limited to:

- Require a short reflection paper on research methodology
- Require a draft bibliography prior to submission of the final work
- Require the cover page and first cited page of each reference source to be photocopied and submitted with the final paper; and/or
- Require the submission of specified rough notes and drafts

## Information Sheet for Research Paper

1. In which Ministry are you supposed to be working in?
2. What is the name of the (real) Minister currently heading that Ministry?
3. What news source did you find this story in?
4. What social problem does this story relate to?
5. Why do you think a Deputy Minister would be concerned when reading this story?
6. What did you learn about Canadian or Ontario policies regarding this specific social problem?