Genetics and Society Term Paper

A critical skill in science is being able to convey complicated ideas in written format. To help you practice and hone this skill, you will write a term paper. I have broken the process of writing into several logical steps. Your grade is dependent on completion of each step and the final product. This assignment is 35% of your total grade in the class and should be taken seriously. All portions of the term paper will be turned in on AsULearn.

Step 1 (5%) – Choose a partner and get your topic approved
Step 2 (10%) – Consult the literature and submit a bibliography
Step 3 (15%) – Submit an outline of your paper
Step 4 (35%) – Submit a rough draft
Step 5 (35%) – Deliver an oral presentation and submit the final draft

In this exercise you and a partner will choose a topic from the theme "Genetics and Society". You may choose any topic within this broad theme, but you MUST get your topic approved by me before you proceed. A topic and brief description is due during the 2nd lab meeting.

The next step will require that you use the library and its resources to identify and read at least 10 primary (minimum of 4) and secondary manuscripts (each team member does 5). A formatted bibliography of these manuscripts is due during the 4th lab meeting.

Once you have thoroughly researched your topic, you will prepare an outline of the term paper. It should include the main topics of discussion and is due during the 6th lab meeting.

The most important step in the process is to generate a rough draft. This draft should include an introduction, body paragraphs, and a discussion section. The rough draft should be ~2000 words. It is due during the 8th lab meeting.

The final stage of this process is to edit and format a complete document. You also need to generate a 5-10 minute presentation for the class. Both are due during the 11th lab meeting.

Peer-evaluation: This term paper requires that you work together for the entire semester. When the final document is turned in, you will have the opportunity to evaluate your partner's performance. Grades will be adjusted accordingly.

The University Writing Center is located in room 008 of the Belk Library & Information Commons. Consultants will work with you one-on-one and provide assistance with style, organization, content, voice, grammar, and documentation (including MLA and APA formats). In addition to your draft and/or any pre-writing notes, bring your assignment to your session. To make an appointment, call 262-3144. Check their website for current hours. http://writingcenter.appstate.edu