Project Research Guide

Suggested Structure of Paper/Presentation:

**Section 1:** Topic overview/definitions (include brief history, descriptive statistics and trends if relevant); mention key points here as a preview.

**Section 2:** Complexities of topic (more history and economic issues/questions).

**Section 3:** Use economic analysis to discuss issues and policy relevance (economic analysis can include discussions of costs and benefits, incentives, supply and demand analysis, and implications of ceteris paribus assumptions).

**Section 4:** Key Points for topic.

Other guidance:

1. **References:**
   - Cite original sources whenever possible. For example, if you read a newspaper article that talks about a recent government report, you need to locate the government report, read that, and cite that original source. It is *not* sufficient to include just a web site as a citation. You must include a full citation, which includes author(s), name of document, group or organization, date of publication, web site address plus date downloaded.

   **Explicit Rules about References:**
   - Minimum required references = 8.
   - Maximum from popular media = 3.
   (Examples of popular media: newspapers, magazines, etc.)

2. **Presentation Study Guide:**
   - Entire document should be two pages, single-spaced and should follow an outline format. Include all key points from paper/presentation in this study guide. At top of the first page, put title of presentation and names of team members. Directly below those two items, list two questions that the students can use to test their learning of the important material. These questions can be in the form of: define; explain; or list.

3. **General Suggestions for conducting research:**
   - See research librarian for assistance in literature search.
   - See professor for suggestions.
   - Search on google: [http://www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
   - Read about topic in textbook and see appropriate references.

4. **General Suggestions for working with a team:**
   - Set a schedule and stick to it. Put together presentation BEFORE the night before you are scheduled to talk. Practice the talk before giving it in front of class. Keep close tabs on teammates.
Suggested Websites and Sources:

* NY Times index:  [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)
* [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)
* Wall Street Journal Index:  [www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)
* National Bureau of Economic Research (see working papers; search on topic):  [www.nber.org](http://www.nber.org)
* [http://Netec.wustl.edu/WebEc.html](http://Netec.wustl.edu/WebEc.html): go to: Labor and Demography
* Institute of Industrial Relations:  [http://library.berkeley.edu/IIRL/iirlnet.html](http://library.berkeley.edu/IIRL/iirlnet.html)
* Social Security:  [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
* Bureau of Economic Analysis:  [www.bea.doc.gov](http://www.bea.doc.gov)
* U.S. Census Bureau:  [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
* U.S. Department of Labor:  [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov)
* Green Book: (govt. statistics)
* Economic Report of the President (annual)
* Urban Institute:  [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)
* W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research:  [www.upjohninstitute.org](http://www.upjohninstitute.org)
* Brookings Institute
* U.S. National Labor Relations Board:  [www.nlrb.gov](http://www.nlrb.gov)
* Cato Institute (leans “right”):
* National Center for Health Statistics:  [www.cdc.gov/nchs](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs) (data on topics such as divorce, fertility, etc.)
* Vital Statistics:
* Joint Centers for Poverty Research:  [www.jcpr.org](http://www.jcpr.org)
*  [www.mdrc.org](http://www.mdrc.org)
*  [www.mathematica.org](http://www.mathematica.org)
* Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
  * Suggested economics journals: issues more than two years old:  [www.jstor.com](http://www.jstor.com)
    - *Monthly Labor Review*
    - *Journal of Economic Perspectives*
    - *Journal of Human Resources*
    - *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*
    - *Industrial Relations*
    - *Demography*