

IDC4U Summative Task: Independent Research Report 2018-2019

Introduction

A major component of this course is your personal research project. This will be a major focus throughout the remainder of this course and forward until it is due in mid-May. Unfortunately, we will have little class time to devote to this task. Treat this like a university assignment – it will be up to you to research, organize your research notes, write drafts of your work, and consult with the teacher about your project on an ongoing basis.

Description, Purpose, & Objectives of the Project

In this course, you have begun to develop your knowledge, understanding, and perspective on the “worldview tensions” in our culture and how they play out in the ideas that shape our society. Your project should be the vehicle which takes your understanding of these concepts and begins to apply them to “your real world”.

The primary purpose of the Christian education you have been receiving at Redeemer has been to prepare you to meet, engage, and challenge Canada’s and the wider world’s culture with a Christian and Biblical perspective on many of the main issues facing us in our time. This will be directly relevant to you in the university, college, or career environments where you will soon find yourself. It is, of course, your choice whether or not to live your life as a disciple of Christ, but it is Redeemer’s calling to help you prepare to do that should you choose to accept the mission and follow Jesus.

This project, in the last semester of your graduating year at Redeemer, is your opportunity to begin a serious encounter with our culture in one specific area that is of direct interest and special meaning to you. *You* will choose your field of study, your area of investigation, with input and guidance from your teacher, parents, and others whom you trust. The field of study that you choose, and the focus of your project should reflect a real and serious concern and interest related to your future education or career plans, or to an issue in which you have a real, lasting interest.

The objective of this project is for you to choose a field of study, focus on a specific issue within that field, investigate and evaluate the philosophical and worldview assumptions that are foundational to that field, and to describe how a proper Christian worldview can provide direction and light for your future work in that field.

Project Outline/Structure:

1. A **summary of the field**, that includes:
 - a) A brief outline of the history and key individuals that have shaped the field.
 - b) Key definitions, structures and boundaries that are relevant to the field.
 - c) A general thesis statement summing up what you are saying in this paper (maybe wait until the end to write this?)
2. **Foundations of Field:** An outline of the present worldview and philosophical perspectives that form the foundation of the field in the world at the present time.
3. **Main Issue Summary:** An overview of some important issue that someone working in the field will be faced with. *This should be directly related to the worldview/philosophical assumptions you have already identified.*
4. **Analysis:** An analysis of how a Christian worldview should apply to this field and will provide guidance in the key issue. This would be a good place to include some references from what other Christians have said in about this issue as well as relevant Biblical guidance. (Try to be thoughtful and not cliché. Don’t just toss out easy answers!)
5. A **conclusion** that will sum up how you think a Christian operating from a Christian worldview should operate within the field to bring light and redemption.

6. Important to note: Proper MLA referencing and citations are important. Keep track of your sources so you can do this. Marks will be deducted if not done well.

Project Elements

1. Preliminary Elements (1% each)
 - a) Field choice: Tell me in a few professional sentences (typed) about the field you're interested in researching and why.
 - b) **Summary of field:** Provide a brief summary of your research for section #1 of the project as listed above. You want to highlight some key history and influential individuals in the field, as well as any important terms or definitions that will be important for exploring the worldview tensions within this field. (Make sure to provide good, specific research, properly cited.)
 - c) **Foundations of field:** Provide a brief summary of your research for section #2 of the project as listed above. Dig into the key worldview / philosophical assumptions that are currently prevalent in this field. Potentially highlight some areas of tension. (Make sure to provide good, specific research, properly cited.)
 - d) **Main issue summary:** Provide a brief summary of your research on one specific and particularly significant issue that arises due to the worldview / philosophical assumptions you have identified. (Make sure to provide good, specific research, properly cited.)
 - e) **Outline** of presentation and paper. (detailed)
2. Presentation to the class, 30 minutes long with an outline handout (MAX 1 page!) for the class. Due last two weeks in class on the days assigned. (Lottery draw) (10%)
3. Each student will have their presentation assessed by three other students. These critiquing students will be expected to offer constructive criticism and to ask insightful questions. Each student will critique three presentations.
4. Paper, 2000 words, fully cited/referenced according to MLA style, due at the beginning of class on Friday, June 7. (10%)
5. All preliminary elements and rough notes to be handed in with paper.

Evaluation

The final evaluation of the research report will have 3 parts.

Preliminary Elements:	5%
Presentation:	10%
Paper:	10%

Deadlines

1. Preliminary Elements:
 - a) Field choice: Friday, March 22
 - b) Summary of field: Tuesday, March 26
 - c) Foundations of field: Tuesday, April 9
 - d) Main Issue summary: Tuesday, April 23
 - e) Outline: Tuesday, May 7
2. Presentations: Wednesday, May 15 – Thursday, June 6
3. Major paper: Due beginning of class on Friday, June 7

IDC4U Final Project Presentation Rubric

Your presentation will be marked on according to the following rubric.

	Level 1: Below Expectations (50-59%)	Level 2: Approaching Expectations (60-69%)	Level 3: Meeting Expectations (70-79%)	Level 4-: Exceeding Expectations (80-89%)	Level 4+: Exceeding Expectations (90-100%)
Communication (40) -Body language (5)	-Your body language was very distracting – you didn't stop fidgeting -You rarely made eye contact with the class	-Your body language and movement was a little distracting from what you were saying. -You looked up a couple of times, but more often were looking at your papers/presentation.	-Your body language and movement was unobtrusive and not distracting to your presentation -You made a point to made eye contact with the class here and there	-You occasionally used your hands and movements to enhance your points -You had eye contact with the class more often than not	-You used frequent hand gestures and movement to enhance your points -Your eye contact with the class was almost unbroken for the whole presentation
-Pace (5)	Your presentation was so fast that we could barely make it out! Or it was so slow that we had a hard time staying focused.	Your speed (either too fast or slow) unfortunately did detract from your presentation.	Your presentation was a little fast or slow, but still very understandable.	Your presentation was mostly a great speed, but speed up/slowed down occasionally	Your presentation was the perfect speed – not too fast and not too slow – and it was like this throughout the presentation.
-Volume and clarity (5)	Way too loud or soft – it was difficult to make out or understand your presentation.	Either too loud or too soft, and unfortunately, this hurt the clarity of your presentation.	Good volume, and usually pretty clear, with only a couple of incidences of less-than-clarity.	Very good volume and mostly strong clarity.	Perfect volume – great projection and clarity.
-Voice and Diction (5)	Your inflection and dynamics are not meeting expectations – your presentation was monotone, which hurt the interest it could provoke in the audience.	Your inflection and dynamics need some work – you were sounding slightly monotone at times, which made your presentation less interesting to listen to.	Good inflection and dynamics – you showed an effort to vary your tones, and as a result your presentation was interesting.	Very good inflection and dynamics. You were clearly making an effort to vary the tones you used, and it worked well.	Fantastic inflection and dynamics – your voice was extremely interesting to listen to.
-Visual element (15)	Your visual element is pretty sloppy and hastily put-together. More effort would increase your mark in this area.	Your visual element is not fancy, and it seems slightly tacked-on – it doesn't truly add to our understanding of your material.	Your visual element is not fancy, but it is effective in helping us understand the material you are presenting.	Your visual element adds much to your presentation, is colourful, and has no overt grammatical, spelling errors.	Your visual element is not just effective, it is extremely attractive, eye-catching, and engaging.
-Quality of handout (5)	Your handout is pretty jumbled, making it hard to read/understand.	Your handout is difficult to read/understand. It does not have the best layout, which limits its usefulness. IT DOES NOT FIT ON ONE PIECE OF PAPER	Your handout works. It has good information, though it is not organized in clear point form. IT FITS ON ONE PIECE OF PAPER	Your handout is very good. It is laid out well, in good point form, and has only a few errors. IT IS ONLY ONE SIDE OF ONE PAGE	Your handout is excellent – well laid-out, organized in clear point form, and has no noticeable errors. IT IS ONLY ONE SIDE OF ONE PAGE AND IT IS PROFESSIONAL AND FANCY
Knowledge and Understanding (20) -Quality of research, information, understanding of the concepts related to the field presented	No evidence of research is demonstrated, but you do seem to know a bit about the topic from your own reading. You were unable to answer many of the questions.	Some evidence of research is demonstrated, but not much. You seem slightly confused about some aspects of your topic. You were badly stumped by one or more of the questions.	You have clearly done some research, and you seem to understand what you're talking about. You had difficulty with some questions, but did well on most.	You have clearly done much research on this topic, and it shows in your ability to tackle your classes questions with relative ease.	Your research on this topic is fantastic – you were impressive during the question period, and you seem really clear on all the concepts related to the field.
Thinking and Inquiry (20) -Quality of analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	Minimal analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	Some analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues, but some elements of worldview were missed.	A basic and complete analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	A good analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	A clear and thorough analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues
Application (20) -Application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	Minimal application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	Some inconsistent application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	A simple application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	A good application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	An excellent application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues

IDC4U Final Project
Paper Rubric

Your paper will be marked according to the following rubric.

	Level 1: Below Expectations (50-59%)	Level 2: Approaching Expectations (60-69%)	Level 3: Meeting Expectations (70-79%)	Level 4-: Exceeding Expectations (80-89%)	Level 4+: Exceeding Expectations (90-100%)
Communication (25) - Technical: grammar and documentation (15)	The report has many technical errors	The report has some technical errors	The report has few technical errors	The report has only one or two technical errors	The report no technical errors
- Clarity (10)	The main ideas are difficult to discern	The main ideas are presented clearly in some places in the paper	The main ideas are clearly presented throughout most of the paper	The main ideas are very clearly presented throughout the whole paper	The main ideas are very clearly presented in a very interesting way throughout the paper
Knowledge and Understanding (25) -Quality of research, information, understanding of the concepts related to the field presented	No evidence of research is demonstrated, but you seem to know a bit about the topic from your own reading.	Some evidence of research is demonstrated, but not much. You seem slightly confused about some aspects of your topic.	You have clearly done some research, and you seem to understand what you're talking about.	You have clearly done much research on this topic, and you have a good understanding of the topic.	Your research on this topic is fantastic, and you seem really clear on all the concepts related to the field.
Thinking and Inquiry (25) -Quality of analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	Minimal analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	Some analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues, but some elements of worldview were missed.	A basic and complete analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	A good analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues	A clear and thorough analysis of worldview of field and important ethical issues
Application (25) -Application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	Minimal application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	Some inconsistent application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	A simple application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	A good application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues	An excellent application of Christian Worldview to the field and issues

Comments: