# PSCI 498A Current Issues in Political Science
## Final Project
Guidelines and Expectations

The final project must investigate how the chosen topic/concept plays out in contemporary politics, policy and governance. We expect 1,000-1,500 written words, which can be, but is not limited to, a standard written report. Other options, chosen at the student's discretion, include submitting a blog or daily journal, creating a website, a photo essay, a mock newspaper article or opinion editorials, a poster presentation, a slide deck (created in Power Point or Prezi), a vlog/documentary/video (with accompanying written abstracts or blurbs), an audio recording of a mock radio interview with written transcript.

Depending on the nature of your research you might need to get Research Ethics approval. Please discuss this with the PSCI 49X instructor.

Given below is a detailed grading rubric:

| Evaluation Category | Attributes |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization (30 points)** | The pattern of organization is appropriate for the topic:<br>• Chronological<br>• Spatial<br>• Topical<br>• Causal<br>• Pro/Con<br>• Problem/cause/solution |
| | Information presented is logically coherent |
| | Presentation is well-researched and referenced appropriately |
| **Content (45 points)** | Content is creatively articulated and presented |
| | Integration of coursework with the experience of doing research |
| | Demonstrates critical thinking |
| | Material included is relevant to the overall message/purpose that is it should advance the reader's understanding of the topic |
| | Appropriate amount of material is prepared, and points made reflect well their relative importance |
| **Presentation (25 minutes)** | Properly formatted. Pay attention to the following:<br>• Margins<br>• Font size<br>• Placement of graphics<br>• Planning and attention to detail |
| | Properly edited, free of spelling, grammatical and punctuation errors. |
| | Visual aids are well prepared, informative, effective, and not distracting |