**Sociology**

**2017**

**Group Assignment’s Instructions**

1 – The Long Assignment is a research paper dedicated to exploring a subject under one of the general themes made available at the course webpage. The group will be responsible for the transformation of the broad topic into a worthy research theme.

2 – This is a group assignment with the **maximum of four elements** per group.

3 – The assignment will have a **maximum of 12.000 words**, including bibliography, footnotes, tables, and graphics, but excluding any annexes.

4 – The assignment should follow the formal presentation of a research paper to be submitted to a **peer-reviewed journal in Sociology**. Students are advised to search examples in such journals as “American Sociological Review”; “Socio-Economic Review”, “Theory and Society”, “Theory Culture and Society”, etc. General instructions on how to write and structure a paper, make citations and references will also be available at the course webpage.

5 – Any form of plagiarism, wrong use of citations, or fraudulent use of information will be strongly penalized and, in extreme cases, will signify the annulment of the assignment.

6 – The assignment will be **worth 50% of the final grade**.

7 – The assignment will be due on the **final day of the course**, after a public presentation in one of the four final classes. Before the public presentation, the group has to distribute a short summary of the assignment to facilitate the discussion in class (a copy of the slides may be used for this purpose)

8 – During the semester, two classes will be held to discuss the ongoing situation of these assignments. All relevant questions concerning the assignment can be discussed at that time.

9 – Students (or groups) also enrolled in the Economic and Financial Sociology course are strongly advised to choose a topic that fits both courses. This way, they’ll be able to write two papers but with only one research subject.

10 – The instructor will provide the group with a set of documents to launch the research project. These will be papers or books that frame the large topic.

**Evaluation Criteria**

1 – **Variety and quality of the bibliography/references/sources**. The literature review should be relevant, concise and up to date. In an empirical paper, you should provide at least 25 different references; in a theoretically oriented paper, you should provide at least 40. Bibliography should obey one of the norms currently in use in social sciences journals. Web pages can be uses but always with reference to the web address and the date of consultation. All citations and quotations must indicate author, publication and page. (20%)

2 – **Originality and relevance of the topic**. The topic of research must be explored in an original way, be it in terms of the methodology or articulation of ideas. Conclusions should offer invaluable perspectives for the understanding of the theme or pave the way for new research in the area. (20%)

3 – **Structure and articulation of ideas**. This is a group assignment, meaning that the entire paper should reflect a sense of unity, offering coherence and an articulated type of discourse. The literature review, the methodology, the results and the conclusions should form a unity. (20%)

4 – **Adequacy of the methodology used in the paper**. The methods used in the development of this project should be relevant for the exploration of the topic and offer an insightful test to the arguments used. (20%)

5 – **Quality of the public presentation** – The presentation should be clear and insightful. The materials used in the presentation should be rich and relevant. The answer to questions and comments should be precise and understandable. (20%)