General Comments and Suggestions for Revisions

Tiffany Muller Myrdahl

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>very good</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>fair</th>
<th>insufficient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content 1: Supporting empirical evidence, including statistical data</td>
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<td>Content 2: Explanation /interpretation of findings (application of concepts from lectures, textbook and other scholarly sources to discuss findings)</td>
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<td>Organization of paper and clarity and coherence of arguments</td>
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<td>Use of sources</td>
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<td>Language and mechanical correctness</td>
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Geography 3381 / Global Studies 3381: Population in an Interacting World

Supporting empirical evidence

See comments in paper

Explanation/interpretation

See comments in paper

Organization of paper and clarity and coherence of arguments

- Overall organization of the paper needs to be improved. Revise structure of the paper.
- Some paragraphs contain more than one idea.
- Statistical data not sufficiently incorporated in the paper.
- Introduction to the paper needs to spell out the purpose of the paper.
- Conclusion needs to provide a summary statement and final thought.
- Parts of the essay include excessive or trivial information beyond what is necessary to support your argument.
- Some of the paragraphs and sections of the essay are logically inconsistent and have contradictory ideas.
- Transitions between some paragraphs are abrupt and do not flow well. Or in other words, the connections between some paragraphs are unclear.

See comments in paper
Use of sources

- Needs to use more scholarly/academic sources besides internet sources
- Provide references in the text.
- References to sources in text are formatted incorrectly.
- Quotes are not properly attributed and cited in the text.
- Bibliography has to be provided for citations/references used.
- Reference to tables and graphs needs to be integrated into the text (e.g. “see Table 1”, “see Figure 2”).

Style and tone, language, sentences, wording

- Some sentence structures are too complex, too wordy, or too long. Streamline sentence structures.
- The tone of the essay is too casual (i.e., in spoken English).
- Avoid definitive words like “every,” “all,” and “never” unless you are absolutely sure about them.
- Avoid too much passive voice (e.g. passive: “Mistakes were made by the government”; active: “The government made mistakes”).

Mechanical correctness

- Avoid abbreviations such as “isn’t” or “doesn’t.” Spell out these words fully (i.e., “is not” or “does not”).
- Some grammatical errors.
- Some spelling errors
- Some typos
- Citation/bibliography format must be modified or corrected. Citation of references in the bibliography must follow a uniform format.

Other issues

- No title!
- Too long.
- Too short.

Advice

You should consider taking your paper to the Center for Writing (main location: 15 Nicholson Hall) before submitting the revised essay. You need to make an appointment before seeing a writing tutor- visit http://writing.umn.edu/sws/index.htm for details.