

**GUIDELINES FOR PAPERS**  
**L330 Spring 2004**  
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Good writing requires clear thinking, and one of the best ways to achieve a better understanding of any subject is to write about it. Things you learn from writing will be long remembered.

During this course, your main effort will be devoted to writing papers on topics of your own choice that are relevant to world energy and environmental problems, and to presenting these papers orally to the class.

Some general guidelines for the papers:

1. Pick a topic you really care about that's relevant to the basic issues raised in the text for the course – *Energy: Science, Policy, and the Pursuit of Sustainability*. If you come from, or have special interests in, another country, you may wish to pick a topic that has to do with energy/environment problems in that country.
2. Have your topics approved by me, so that we will achieve diversity in the class and not have too much duplication.
3. Begin by researching the topic thoroughly using the text as a starting point but including other books and magazine articles that you can find in libraries; for example, the SPEA/Business library. Web articles can be good for obtaining recent information and data, but they generally do not provide a good basis for a paper.
4. If you already hold strong views on a particular subject, you may wish to write a paper supporting a particular action or point of view concerning an energy issue (e.g., a paper for or against the establishment of wind power farms in southern Indiana).
5. If your research leads to significantly different views, you may wish to devote your paper to an analysis of the arguments on both sides of an issue (for example, whether or not nuclear power should play a bigger role toward meeting future U.S. energy needs). Include your own insights and opinions and explain why certain arguments are persuasive to you while others are less so.
6. I would rather not put strict limits on the paper lengths; they should be whatever you need to make your points. A rough guide, however, is five or six double-spaced pages, with at least three non-web references (books or journals).
7. Be careful about plagiarism. Ideas taken from other people's work must be fully referenced. In addition, direct quotations must be placed in quotation marks.
8. If possible, please use Microsoft Word, since that is what I can most easily download to my computer.
9. On the day of your class presentation, bring a hard copy of your paper to class and also e-mail me an electronic version. I'll insert my comments directly into the electronic version and return it to you, with copies to the rest of the class so that we'll all have a complete record of what goes on in the course.