**Assignment One: Final Feasibility Report**

**Background/Purpose**: This assignment is part of your preparation for the formal report/research paper that you will write later this quarter in Unit Three. Successful research writing requires an author to begin research well in advance of the due date. This current assignment, Assignment One Feasibility Report, will help you determine your research topic, will “force” you to explore sources and engage in research, and will reveal the feasibility of a topic in relation to the general assignment guidelines for the formal report.

Make sure you review the assignment specifications for the formal report before starting this feasibility report; you’ll find them in the folder titled “Preview of the Formal Report” on the main Course Material page. Understanding the formal report specifications is key to determining the criteria that you will need to analyze in this current feasibility report.

**Assignment One Focus**.Research three to four potential topics for the Assignment Three formal report that you will write later this quarter. *IMPORTANT: you are NOT writing a formal report now; you are simply determining your topic.* Write a feasibility report that discusses your topical “candidates,” the scope of your focus, and the position you speculate you will take within your formal report. Finally, recommend the topic you think you can research and present in the Assignment Three Formal Report with the most success.

Your feasibility report must contain the following:

* Discussion of *no less than three* (and *no more than four)* research topics and their related scope/focus and your speculated position
* Comparison of n*o less than* four criteria (examples of potential criteria: does the topic have a “pro” and a “con”? What is your interest level? Availability of appropriate sources.)
* A comparative table
* Use of all feasibility report elements on the Generic Feasibility Report Model handout in Unit One. Refer also to the sample reports by former students.
* Use of a memo format
* Lay-reader accessibility to your information and to your report format
* Flesch Kincaid grade level calculation and passive sentence percentage calculation
* **Length: minimum of 2 full pages**

NOTE: Select topics of “real” interest to you, professionally or personally—you should genuinely care about your final topic or you will most likely write a mediocre report. An interesting website that may help you pick a topic is [www.sciencedaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com). See also the ideas of former students in the Discussion Board.

Check with me if you’re not sure whether the topic you’re leaning towards will fit the formal report assignment. If I approve of your recommended topic in your feasibility report, you *must* use that topic for the Assignment Three Formal Report. In other words, you can’t make a switch later this quarter when you realize you picked a lousy topic, so make sure you put some effort into selecting a good topic.