# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**Is there a textbook? No. Instead, there is a series of tutorials (called IRIS) which is integrated into the course. THERE IS NO FEE FOR A TEXTBOOK.**

[IRIS: Information & Research Instruction Suite](https://docs.google.com/folder/d/0B9HLBJSmC6v2SG5DSVAtMWd5T28/edit)

**Your participation is considered by the instructor in the scoring for each assignment.** **How do I participate?**

* Submit all your assignments by due dates
* Participate fully when asked to respond to questions or your classmates' work.
* Send in insightful and substantial responses
* Login at least four days (4/7) each week for readings and assignments

Statistics show students who spend time preparing for course work through the quarter deliver better quality term project at the end of the quarter. What you learn from this class depends on what you invest in this class.

**When required, how long should the responses to your classmates be?**

I would like to say quality not quantity counts. Having said that, I expect a response between 50 and 100 words in order to express your opinion thoughtfully. Writing is a reflective medium and constructive exchange enriches our learning process. The more we write the better we get.

**Why do we have to write weekly journal entries?**

The journal entry serves as a self-assessment tool helping you to reflect on what you have learned. It also helps me to understand how you are doing in the course.

**What do I need to do for the final Pathfinder project which looks complicated?**

The Pathfinder does look complicated but it is built on cumulative weekly work. It means that almost every week you do some assignments that will become part of your final Pathfinder.

This is why it is important to keep up with the weekly assignments. In the end, you just need to put it altogether and write an essay.

**Can I visit a small public library or school library instead of a college library for the field trip assignment?**

No. Academic libraries (university, college and community college) and small public libraries serve different clienteles and are organized differently. While a big public library such as the Seattle Public Library may serve as a research library in some subject areas, small local library lacks the depth and breadth of a good sized academic library. You will be asked to visit an academic library in week 4 for the field trip and reference sources assignments, so please check your calendar and set aside time for this visit. You may visit any library that is part of a college or university library system. (If it is impossible for you to visit an academic library, please contact me immediately for an alternative assignment.)

**What is the policy on submitting an assignment after its due date?**

* Assignments that are more than 2 weeks over due will not be accepted
* 20% will be deducted from late assignments that are accepted (That is, a 5 point assignment can earn a maximum of only 4 points.)
* The final project, the Pathfinder, ***will not*** be accepted after the due date under any circumstances

Due to the work load of this class, it is important that you stick to the schedule. A late assignment will miss the opportunity for group input. The weekly assignments will build toward the Pathfinder, the final assignment. So besides losing points, you may end up with a less than satisfactory Pathfinder.