GUS 0842 Sustainable Environments

Spring 2020

**ASSIGNMENT 1 : CALCULATING YOUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT**

**Please read the entire prompt BEFORE completing the assignment**

**Ecological Footprint**

As a way to understand our individual roles in affecting the environment, it is important to reflect on our daily life practices and material usages, known as your ecological footprint.

Please visit the following site and take the quiz to calculate your personal footprint: <https://www.footprintnetwork.org/resources/footprint-calculator/>

There is an option to add details to improve your answer accuracy. I suggest answering them to have a clearer picture. It is okay to make a guess or estimate but try to answer the questions as accurately as possible.

When you take the quiz note down your answers, or if you have thoughts about any particular questions.

After you finish the quiz, you are given a variety of options to decrease your footprint. Please follow one or more scenarios and also record those figures.

After completing the quiz, please write a 1 page essay\* (350-400 words) that addresses the following:

* What was your overall footprint (i.e. how many worlds) for your original calculation? Did this surprise you? Why or why not?
* What was the top economic sector impacting your footprint (i.e. the graph to the right of the world number)? What was the bottom (the least)? From the figures given in these graphs, reflect on one or two habits/practices of yours that had the greatest impact on your footprint?
* Which scenario did you follow to lessening your footprint and how much did it decrease your impact? Did this figure surprise you? Do you think you may adopt this practice in your daily life? If so, how would this transform your daily routine? If not, why and what are some factors that limit your adoption of this practice.
* After completing the quiz, reflect on your environmental impact. How does it feel to have this information presented to you in this way?

**\*Note: I am not necessarily looking for an essay with an intro, body and conclusion but I do expect your essay to be at least one page, be clearly written, proofread, and thoughtful. Please no bullet points. Complete sentences and paragraphs only.**

**Turn in your essay (in a MS Word or PDF file) to the Assignment 1 submission portal on Canvas by 2/10 at noon.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grading Rubric** | **A range** | **B range** | **C range** | **Below C** |
| **Footprint Calculator tool**Max points: 5 | Essay demonstrates student engaged with calculator tool and discusses this experience with thoughtful detail and research.5 pts | Essay discusses the student’s experience with the footprint tool accurately and in earnest attempt to complete the assignment, but without much detail or thoughtfulness.4 pts | Essay discusses the student’s experience, but distorts it, or discusses it very minimally and does not clearly respond to essay prompt. 3 pts | Essay is either plagiarized or discussion of the tool is not in student's own words. Or the essay clearly demonstrates student did not engage with tool0-2 pts |
| **Analysis**Max points: 30 | Essay contains an analysis that is original, shows critical thinking, or uses course material in innovative ways. Essay has a solid 'sense of voice.'27-30 pts | Essay is an earnest attempt to complete the assignment, but is either tepidly supported or indistinguishable from what the authors already said (e.g., no 'sense of voice').24-26 pts | The analysis is there but is logically flawed, inconsistent, or not supported.21-23 pts | No part of the essay can be identified as analysis, or the essay is plagiarized.0-20 pts |
| **Writing Clarity, Grammar, etc.**Max points: 10  | Essay is well written and contains fewer than 3 grammatical errors.9-10 pts | Essay either has more than 2 grammatical errors or has problems with logical flow and syntax (sentence structure).7-8 pts | Essay has a combination of errors involving logical flow, overall structure, syntax (sentence structure) and grammar.5-6 pts | Essay exhibits a need for student to visit the Temple writing center or take remedial writing classes.0-4 pts |
| **Citation, bib, & format**Max points: 5 | Sources are cited in text and the bibliography is in proper format. 5 pts | The bib is in proper format but nothing is cited in text, or, there are in text citations but the bibliography has significant formatting errors4 pts | The bibliography is missing but there are citations in text. The difference between 2 and 3 depends on the format of the citations. 2-3 pts | There are no citations/ no bib. The possibility of 1 point depends on whether the student mentioned the authors and article title in text.0-1 pts |
| 10 points will be deducted for every day late |