

**Research Project Two: Spring 2019 – US Government / AP
This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate**

Final Due Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2019. (This is a “drop dead” date: no papers accepted after this date).

Question: Naomi Klein’s recent book *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate* has created quite a stir within the social sciences. Some scholars suggest that she has crossed the “river of fire” by linking climate change and environmental catastrophe to the capitalist system, a position that even many liberals are uncomfortable with. Nevertheless, Klein’s contention that these problems cannot be solved under the prevailing economic system begs the question: Will humans survive these potential catastrophes living under advanced industrial / neoliberal capitalism?

Sample Outline

(But feel free to set this essay up as you wish)

I. Introduction / Thesis Statement – a brief statement outlining your position or something relevant about this issue.

II. Body – the bulk of the paper is here, in data taken from the readings and other evidence that you have found to support your position.

- a. Text DPE – what does your textbook have to say about the question of climate change or its relation to our economic system? If it says little or nothing, why do you think that is?**
- b. Climate Change Deniers DPE.**
- c. The Concerned Liberals DPE.**
- d. Those who have crossed the “river of fire” DPE.**
- e. Outside DPE – are there other authors that you have examined that have a unique and/or important perspective on this question? They can of course come from any theoretical perspective.**

III. Conclusion – Can we address climate change concerns under the prevailing economic system? Which of the theoretical positions seems most likely to be applied given the current politics in the U.S.?

Extras:

- 1. Make sure to include some form of citation (preferably APA) every time you use a statement or an idea from the readings that I have provided, or that you found in your own independent research. Using other’s work without providing proper citation is plagiarism and grounds for immediate failure on this essay.**
- 2. Please type all work on a computer.**
- 3. This paper should not be turned in separately. It will be the second chapter of your final thesis paper.**
- 4. An “A” paper will be: a) fully documented and cited; b) a *minimum* of 10 pages of text analysis (DO NOT include a separate title and abstract page; c) research *beyond* authors provided; and d) turned in *on time* (May 28, 2019).**