

**Research Project Two: Spring 2017 – U.S. Government  
U.S. Higher Education Policy**

**Final Due Date (“Drop-Dead” date: No papers accepted after this date): Friday, June 2, 2017**

**Question: The documentary film – *Ivory Tower* – paints a pretty disturbing picture of American higher education today. Examine some of the data presented by critical theorists and policymakers and analyze how severe you believe the problem is, or is becoming, and what policies the U.S. government might pursue now as a way to head off this potential “crisis.”**

**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 you have found to support your position.**

- a. Text DPE – anything in your textbook either positive or negative concerning domestic policy of higher education?
- b. Critical DPE – selections from the Hersh / Merrow, and Mathews, Gregorian and Kirp chapters. Include analysis of the introduction of the Washburn book, *University Inc.: The Corruption of Higher Education*.
- c. Documentary Film – include any notes taken from the film, *Ivory Tower*.
- d. Website DPE – include any information from US Government reports on the current state of higher education and policy prescriptions.
- e. Outside DPE – is there anything else you found in website searches or the library that you think is relevant and/or important to include in this debate?

**III. Conclusion – if you agree that higher education is becoming increasingly beset by various crises or is in danger of becoming irrelevant, which policies do you believe might set us back on a proper course? What do you think should be the ultimate purpose of a “higher education”?**

**Extras:**

- 1. Make sure to use the proper APA form of citation *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.*
- 2. Please type all work. Only 1 copy of the paper will be required. It will not be returned.
- 3. An “A” paper will be:
  - a) *fully* documented and cited
  - b) a *minimum* of 10 pages (including title, abstract, and reference pages)
  - c) research *beyond* authors provided
  - d) turned in *on time* (June 2, 2017)