Learning Outcomes

This assignment is designed to achieve several student learning outcomes and will hopefully enable you to demonstrate:

- research skills by demonstrating your proficiency in employing information resources by properly citing, and evaluating primary and secondary sources,
- analytic inquiry and critical thinking skills to develop original, clear, and concise thesis statements from focused research,
- evidence of communicative fluency by producing coherent, compelling, and substantially error-free writing work for a general audience
- understanding of global systems, and how those relate to business leaders
- ability to connect with your own developing global and cultural self-awareness in an experiential manner versus only an intellectual one, and
- ability to apply your knowledge of management principles to contemporary global contexts in an ethical and socially appropriate manner.

All of you can utilize your knowledge of leadership and management and ethics and socially responsibility that you gained in the Introduction to Business course. Those of you who have taken Business Ethics will have an additional body of knowledge to draw upon. Those of you who have not taken this course should consider it as one of your Humanities electives.

Assignment Overview

Part I: Assume you work for a multi-national corporation and you have recently been notified of a new international assignment. This is a special assignment located in ____________________ (you may select the country) for 24-36 months. You are being asked to go to the assigned location and set-up operations that your company hopes will become the base of expanded operations. In order to prepare for your assignment, you will need to identify and describe using evidence obtained from your cited research for the following topics to prepare for your new assignment:

- Country historical overview
- Country political system and its current status
Country socio-culture
Country economic system and its current status
Country business customs
Status of country safety and security

This is typically three to five pages.

Part II: From a global management perspective based on your reading, your research, and our in-class discussions; and utilizing your critical and creative thinking and problem solving skills, also please address the following:

• Outline what specific management challenges you expect to encounter
• Evaluate how you plan to address them
• Explain what specific benefits you foresee managing in a different country
• Evaluate how you plan to avail yourself of those benefits
• Further, analyze what adjustments, if any, will you need to undertake in order to prepare for an extended assignment in this country
• Evaluate how you feel about being assigned to this country given what you have learned

This is typically two to three pages.

Assignment Requirements

As a result of your research, please write a 5-8 page paper about what you learned about the country, its culture, and systems (part I), and how you will evaluate and reflectively apply your management knowledge to your self-selected site of assignment (part II) as a result of your research.

• Do not simply copy reams of information about a country and paste it into your paper.
• Do conduct your research and synthesize (I will provide an overview of this concept in class) the material you have read to decide what to put into the paper that demonstrates your understanding of global management systems, cultures, and cross-cultural challenges in the country you have selected.
• Do utilize quantitative data in graphic or other visual format that will help to explain, and to inform the reader’s understanding of trends, relationships, or changes in status, and your approach to responding to those challenges.
The quality of your research will depend on the quality of your research sources. You are encouraged to use appropriate international sources, online newspapers and websites based in that country that are written in English (see http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/news.html), as well as sources published in the U.S. for the benefit of our citizens traveling and working abroad, such as http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country.html, http://www.state.gov/travel/, that will help you to develop a more authentic understanding of the country you choose. You must use at least five sources.

Evaluation Criteria

Five to eight pages, double spaced, 12 point type.

Reference page and In-Text Citations are required for all external sources (APA Style Format). Your writing will be assessed based on the paper’s content and writing mechanics as follows:

- The quality and thoroughness of your research, how well you have structured your ideas, your ability to demonstrate your cross-cultural awareness and understanding of global systems, and your ability to apply this knowledge to contemporary global contexts.
- Appropriate use of graphics visuals
- In writing, what you say is only as good as how well you say it. Thus, I will also assess your writing mechanics including grammar, punctuation, word use, spelling, and sentence structure.
- As always, please be aware of the College’s policy regarding academic honesty in all student work products and not to commit plagiarism, a very serious offense. ALWAYS use citations when using someone else’s intellectual property.

This assignment is worth 20% of your total Principles of Management grade.

Finally, all writing assignments are expected to be turned in the beginning of class unless prior arrangements have been made with me. Assignments turned in after the deadline will be accepted up to one week. However, they will be reduced by one grade. That is, a late assignment that would have originally received an A will receive a B. Assignments later than one week from the original due date will not be accepted and will be graded as F.