EEP 260: Guidelines for Honors Credit

Students who wish to receive Honors credit for EEP 260 may complete a research paper, as described below. If you would like to do this assignment, please make an appointment to see me as soon as you have identified a topic, so we can discuss the topic that you have selected. In order to assist you to research your topic, early in the semester, I will schedule a group meeting with one of MSU’s reference librarians for all students who wish to do an Honors research paper.

**Topic**

Students may focus their research paper on any topic that is covered in EEP 260. I suggest that you focus on a single country or region of the developing world (i.e., Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, or Asia). Similarly, focus your paper on a specific aspect of the topic. For example, if you are interested in exploring a health-related issue, pick a specific issue such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, infant/child mortality, or malnutrition.

**Length:** 10 pages, double spaced (minimum)

**Structure of the Paper:**

Your paper must address the four questions described below. However, when writing your paper you may modify the name of each section to fit your topic. Begin each section with a topic sentence, and use sub-headings to separate information reported in each subsection (i.e., under each of the 4 main sections).

I. **What is the problem?** (1 page)
   - Briefly describe the issue/problem on which your research paper focuses and why you have chosen to study this issue/problem?

II. **What is the current situation with respect to your problem?** (2 pages)
   - Provide information about various aspects of the problem, including: a) Who is affected by the problem? b) How extensive is the problem (draw on available data statistics to document the extent of the problem)? and c) What reasons/factors explain why this problem exists?

III. **What is being done to solve the problem?** (5 pages)
   - Describe several programs/policies that national governments, international agencies, foreign assistance programs, and non-governmental agencies have supported in their efforts to solve the problem. What are the lessons learned from these efforts, including: a) What programs/policies have failed to have an impact and why? and b) What programs/policies have been most successful in addressing the problem and why?

IV. **What needs to be done in the future to solve the problem?** (2 pages)
   - Drawing on what you have learned about how the problem is being addressed in developing countries, discuss what national government, international agencies, foreign assistance programs, and non-governmental agencies need to do in the future to make additional progress in addressing the problem.

**Information Sources:**

Document your paper using references found in MSU’s library. In addition, you may include data/information found on the internet. However, be sure to include as references the urls for your data/information sources. See Basic Guide on Using Citations and References for citation guidelines.