Assignments for Soc 280.002, Fall 2002

The purpose of the assignments is to give you hands-on experience in constructing a research project. You will work in groups to get the benefit of others' input and an opportunity to discuss the material. One of the points of group work is to bring everybody up to a high standard.

When you get an assignment you will have at least a week to work on it. On the Tuesday of the week it is due, groups will exchange their work with another group and do a critique on that group's work. You will then have 2 days to adjust the work on the assignment before you hand it in. This will give you an opportunity to see what others are doing and to get feedback from a source that is not involved in your research project.

The assignments are to be done as a group effort, but will be graded individually. The group is to decide how to delegate tasks and the group will decide how to delegate grades. If everyone does her/his share and you all agree that the product is satisfactory you indicate 100% for everyone in the group. If someone does very little you determine what percentage of responsibility they have for that. Bob gets 50% and everyone else gets 100%. If someone fails to do their part indicate that with 0% for that person on that assignment. People who do little work will have to be honest about it and people who do sufficient work will have to be assertive about their standards.

Keep in the loop with your group and bring people in who resist making contact. You may be able to do a lot of the work by phone or email or you may decide it's best to meet in person. We will have opportunities to meet some in class, as well.

It is a good idea to rotate leadership responsibilities or completion tasks--getting the product in hand-in-able shape. By Thursday when it is due it should be word processed and proofed. It is also a good idea for everyone in the group to have their own complete copy for each stage of the process.