**Unit 7 Handout 12: IMP Check List**

**General:**

* Title slides tend to stand out, so make sure they are perfect.
  + Are they consistently capitalized?
  + Are proper nouns capitalized?
  + Have you left off your name and school? (No personally identifying information!)
* Check your citations.
  + Are author names capitalized?
  + Are dates included?
  + Do you have a Works Cited/Reference list at the end?
  + Do you have an Image Credits slide for graphic elements (only)?
* Have you practiced your presentation within the 6-8 minute time limit at least three times?
* Have you prepared note cards, and are you comfortable handling them?
* How do you plan to use your laptop? How will you keep time?

**Row 1: Understand and Analyze Context**

* Does your context explain why this topic is SIGNIFCANT?
* Is your context specific?
  + In other words, do you avoid broad general random statements like “racism is a problem”? “Global warming is a problem.” “Everyone knows that…”
* Does your context connect to at least two of the stimulus materials?
  + Do you use in-text citations to call out the stimulus materials?
  + Is there a clear and SPECIFIC connection to each of the stimulus materials? (This means not just saying “Margaret Thatcher discussed the need to protect the environment”. Or “Bob Dylan shows that change is difficult”.
* Is your research question clearly presented?
  + Consider font size—is it legible from every part of the room?
  + Is it properly capitalized?

**Row 2: Establish Argument**

* Is your presentation organized?
  + Does it use heading or title slides to clearly show the components of the presentation?
  + Are those title slides/headings consistently laid out and properly spelled/capitalized?
* Do you clearly lay out your argument towards the beginning of your presentation?
* Do you effectively use evidence to support your argument?
  + Do you not only present evidence but discuss it, explaining how it supports your argument?
  + Do you establish the credibility of the source?
  + Do you show limitations and implications of possible solutions, to show the complexity of the issue?
* Do you have a clear sense through your whole presentation as to what your argument is? Or does it seem vague in places?

**Row 3: Select and Use Evidence**

* Is EVERY piece of evidence you use relevant and credible?
* Do you have enough evidence? (I would suggest 2-3 pieces of evidence for each perspective)
* Do you have clear perspectives? Is it obvious to your audience what those perspectives are?
* Do you have multiple perspectives (more than one?)
* Do you have sufficient perspectives, or is there one perspective that seems glaringly missing?
* Do you put your perspectives (or pieces of evidence) in conversation with each other?
  + Do you explain how one idea supports or contradicts another idea?
  + Do you keep drawing out your own resolution/conclusion/solution as you go through your evidence and perspectives?

**Row 4: Establish Argument**

* Is your solution/resolution/conclusion realistic? Is this something that could logically be done/determined?
* Does your solution/resolution/conclusion directly answer your research question? Try stating your research question followed immediately by your solution statement to see if they match.
* Is your solution clearly spelled out in your presentation, just as your research question was?
* Do you specifically address limitations and implications of your solution/resolution/conclusion BEFORE the 8-minute time limit?

**Row 5: Engage Audience (Design)**

* Page through your slides:
  + Are they visually pleasing and not crowded?
  + Can you read every word on the page?
  + Are you consistent with spelling and capitalization?
* If you use clipart, does it ADD to your presentation? Or is it just “filler”?
* Are you graphs/charts simple and clear?
* Do any slides seem “out of place”, or “why is this here”?

**Row 6: Engage Audience (Performance)**

* How many delivery or performance techniques are you prepared to use?
  + Eye contact
  + Vocal variety
  + Movement
  + Energy
* Have you practiced presenting at least THREE times to different people?
* How heavily are you relying on your notecards? Remember that eye contact and energy are the two most heavily scored components here, so emphasize those two.
* Are your note cards prepared, easily handled, and not distracting to the audience?

**Oral Defense**

Remember that you will be asked TWO oral defense questions, and you must answer them with specific details and specific instances from your experience. Be ready to answer any of the following questions.

**Reflection on Research Process:**

* What information did you need before you began your research, and how did that information shape your research?
* What evidence did you gather that you didn’t use? Why did you choose not to use it?
* How valid and reliable are the sources you used? How do you know? Which sources didn’t work?
* How did your research question evolve as you moved through the research process? Did your research go in a different direction than you originally planned/hypothesized?
* What information did you need that you weren’t able to find or locate? How did you go about trying to find that information?
* How did you handle the different perspectives in order to reach a conclusion?

**Extending Argumentation Through Effective Questioning and Inquiry**

* What additional questions emerged from your research? Why are these questions important?
* What advice would you have for other researchers who consider this topic?
* What might be the real-world implications or consequences (influence on others’ behaviors or decision-making processes) of your findings? What are the implications to your community?
* If you had more time, what additional research would you conduct related to this issue?
* Explain the level of certainty you have about your conclusion, solution, or recommendation.
* How does your conclusion respond to any of the other research or sources you examined?
* How did you use the conclusions and questions of others to advance your own research?