Formatting instructions

Your paper formatting points will be tied to how closely you follow the following formatting instructions:

1. **General Instructions:**
   a) **General Formatting:** All papers in this class should meet the following format guidelines:
      - Standard margins
      - Font size of 12 points, Times New Roman
      - Double-spaced
      - Section Headings: Each paper assignment has guidelines listing specific sections that should be provided in your paper. Please adhere to these section guidelines and use these section headings within your papers.
   b) All papers must be submitted using the SafeAssign feature of Blackboard. Specific instructions on how to submit the assignments are posted in the Assignment folder on Blackboard.
   c) **Reference List:** Please include a reference list in APA style. I have posted some links under the Assignment tab on Blackboard to provide you with tools to develop a correct reference list.
   d) Sample papers are available on Blackboard and you are strongly encouraged to review them before submitting your own work.

2. **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism, be it intentional or unintentional, is a recurring problem with writing assignments, all the more so in the cut-and-paste computer age. I check for plagiarism by using the SafeAssign feature on Blackboard. If I catch plagiarism on any assignment I will file an academic dishonesty charge and recommend a zero on that assignment. It is important that you understand what constitutes plagiarism so that you can avoid it. In its most common form, plagiarism includes:
   - Taking another person's idea, opinion or data and representing it as your own product.
   - Quoting a source without attributing it.
   - Paraphrasing the ideas of another without attribution; this includes taking a chunk of text and changing only a few words here or there and representing it as your own.
   - If you feel like you need clarification on any of these, please check out the following website at Indiana University: [www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml)
   - If you are still not clear from their examples, please e-mail me.

3. **Grading Rubrics:** All assignments submitted in this class will be graded based rubrics although additional points may be added or subtracted at the discretion of the instructor. Copies of the grading rubrics are available for review on Blackboard.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INTRODUCTION PAPER

The introduction paper must be at least three double-spaced pages long. Please use the section headings below to organize your paper.

- **Nationality and Cultural Background:**
  In this section you are asked to describe the cultural background of your child’s birth country (assigned in class). You are required to use outside sources to give the reader a better idea of the predominant attitudes, beliefs, and customs found in your child’s culture. This section may include information about the country’s
  - System of government
  - Geographical location
  - Economy
  - Demographics (e.g. language, ethnic groups, religion, educational system)
  - Cultural background

- **Family Background:**
  This section of your paper should describe the family background of your fictional child. Please provide information regarding the child’s parents (e.g. names, ages, occupations) as well as the extended family system. The section should also explain how the parents met and what (if any) factors led to the decision to have a child. Feel free to provide additional information that you think is important.

- **Pregnancy and Childbirth:**
  This section of your paper must include a detailed description of the pregnancy and birth. The content will probably be influenced by the child’s cultural background and the attitudes and predominant beliefs regarding pregnancy and childbirth. Be sure to include a detailed description of your child at birth (e.g. gender, weight, height, health).
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAPERS 2-5 (INFANCY TO LATE ADULTHOOD AND DEATH):

All remaining papers must be at least four double-spaced pages long. Please use the section headings below to organize the papers. The use of outside sources is required and creativity is a plus. The content of each paper must go beyond what we discussed in class.

1. **Introduction:** Write a short summary (one paragraph) of what happened to your child in the previous stages.

2. **Physical Development:** Describe relevant aspects of the physical development of your child during this stage of life.

3. **Cognitive Development:** Describe relevant aspects of the cognitive development of your child during this stage of life.

- **Social and Emotional Development:** Describe relevant aspects of the social and emotional development of your child during this stage of life.

- **Cultural Influences:** Describe relevant cultural influences that affected the development of your child during this stage of life.
FICTIONAL CHILD SEMESTER PROJECT:

You will spend the semester going stage by stage through the lifespan “creating” the life of a fictional person and you will be asked to incorporate information from readings, class discussions, and outside sources. It is hoped that this project will allow you to observe the coherence of development across the lifespan.

The fictional child assignment was developed as part of the Internationalization Collaborative Across Bloomington (ICAB), a joint initiative between IU Bloomington and Ivy Tech Bloomington. The goals of the ICAB are to increase awareness and interest in internationalization as an essential part of the undergraduate experience, investigate and incorporate ways that internationalization can enhance teaching and learning, and nourish internationalization efforts on both campuses. To support the goals of the ICAB, one special focus of this project is to help you acquire a greater understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity. To accomplish this goal you will be required to evaluate the influence of cultural factors on human development from conception to death.

**Project Outline**

1. You get to pick a nationality and cultural background for your fictional child at the beginning of the semester, which will be crucial for the *Cultural Influences* section of your papers. However, other developmental areas (e.g. physical development, cognitive development, socioemotional development) will most likely also be affected by the cultural background of your fictional child.

2. You must complete five papers describing the development of your fictional child over the course of the semester.

3. All of your papers must be submitted via the *SafeAssign* feature on Blackboard. You are encouraged to incorporate *real life issues* and events into the development of your child (e.g. divorce, illness, poverty, disability, abuse, etc.). Your paper must go BEYOND the material we cover in class and you should use this opportunity to conduct some research on developmental issues that interest you.

4. The content of your papers will be graded on
   a) Incorporation of developmental theories/concepts into your child’s life
   b) Description of changes in the 4 domains of development (Physical, Cognitive, Socioemotional, and Cultural)
   c) Reflection on changes in the child’s life
   d) Creativity

5. At the end of the semester, you will give a brief presentation of their fictional child’s life to the entire class.