**Framing Analysis Project Description**

The purpose of this assignment is to write a 6-page framing analysis paper that attempts to answer the following research question: What are the four dominant frames used by news sites such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Boston Globe when reporting on the opioid crisis?

To complete this project, you will need to:

1. **Introduce the opioid crisis**, discuss the significance of focusing on the framing analysis of the opioid news and clarify the purpose/thesis statement of the paper. See Framing Exercise 1.
2. **Review what Framing theory and framing analysis are** by citing credible academic sources including from McGinty et al. (2016) in Week 4 and the two academic journal articles from Framing Exercise 2.
3. **Provide an overview of four dominant frames** you intend to cover in this paper before diving in with your analysis.
4. **Analyze the four frames using supporting evidence** including two quantitative Voyant data outputs you learned in class (at least one cirrus and one trend analysis) and relevant qualitative quotes and images from the opioid crisis news articles (see Framing Exercise 3). As discussed in class, the construction of frames (mostly unintentional but tied with news conventions) is related to the selection of words, the use of sources, and the connection with a larger societal context (see thematic vs. episodic frame). The point here is for youto use the various type of evidence to show how the four frames are constructed. Do not just state “One of the dominant frames focus on how doctors have to take the responsibilities of the current opioid crisis” without any follow-up discussions.
5. **Not use words such as “bias”, “distortion”, or “objective”** to describe the frames as frames are NOT biases. They demonstrate a viewpoint or an angle when reporting on a story. As discussed in class, news stories are narratives that have to be told with some kind of assumptions about what matters, why it matters, who’s responsible, and what might the solution be. The goal of your paper is to identify the assumptions and give that frame a label.
6. **Conclude by summarizing the four frames and connecting back to your understanding of the Framing theory.** For example, address how the frames are related to the shaping public’s perception on why the issue matters, who is responsible, and what should be done?

Other requirements

1. In addition to writing about the Voyant data in your paper, insert at least one cirrus and one trends output in your paper. For citation, include the URL of the Voyant analysis underneath the image. Also include a brief caption that explains what the visual is trying to illustrate (e.g., which news article was used as the corpus? Is it meant to show a comparison between two articles or to show the top words used in one single article?).
2. Aside from the cirrus and trends output, include two other images such as the official images found from your news sources, infographics, report data, etc. to further supplement your paper. Be creative but thoughtful. Choose intentionally, so the visuals enhance the comprehension of your paper rather than simply for the sake of using visuals.
3. Submit with a clear title that has two parts. Start with a creative and catchy title that captures the spirit of your paper and end with an academic title that is straightforward and uses scholarly jargon. For example: *Whose business is it anyway?: The news framing of the opioid crisis.*
4. The total length of this paper should be **at least 6 pages but no more than 7**. The page length excludes the visuals, cover, and reference page (needs to be formatted in APA style). The paper should be in Times New Roman and font size 12.
5. Please write in the academic tone of voice by avoiding the use of the first person and informal/casual language.
6. Follow APA style citation (see Purdue OWL) for both the in-text citation and the reference page.