**CJ 100: Introduction to Criminal Justice**

**Media Analysis Project**

The purpose of this assignment is to write a 4-5 page media analysis paper on a relevant criminal justice issue. Media analysis requires us to understand how media guides the presentation of certain critical issues. As we have established in this course thus far, society’s values, beliefs, and positions have a great impact on criminal justice and the rule of law. Therefore, it is important to not only have an understanding of the societal presentation of the chosen issue, but it is also extremely important and beneficial to understand how to use the technological tools available to us to identify issues, frame overarching messages, and gain insight on the many perspectives on an issue.

To complete this project, you will need to:

Part 1: Setting the Stage

* **Introduce the issue**, define and describe *in detail* the criminal justice issue you are analyzing. You MUST select a ***criminal justice issue***.
* **Explain the current legal state of the issue**. For example, if your topic is cyberstalking, explain what advances have been in controlling and combatting cyberstalking, as well as the current legal statues that have been passed.

Part 2: The Court of Public Opinion

* **Analyze the publicized societal perspectives** of your issue using the output of AT LEAST 100 analyzed tweets. The more tweets you use, the better your results will be. You should reference various different analyses in your analysis and reflection of the issue, such as but not limited to: a cirrus and/or trend analysis from Voyant, a network analysis from TAGSExplorer, and/or trend analyses from TAGS. The point here is for youto use the various type of evidence to show how citizens, politicians, news outlets, and various other entities feel about the said criminal justice issue, how they talk about it, and what that could mean in terms of future changes.

Part 3: Summary and Conclusions

* **Conclude by summarizing the issue, what the public’s perception is, what might be influencing the perception, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, how that impacts the criminal justice system, policy, and the rule of law.** Given that our laws evolve as society evolves, how might the law on your criminal justice issue change going forward based on the results of your analysis.

Other requirements

1. In addition to writing about the TAGS and Voyant data in your paper, insert at least one cirrus and TWO trends outputs in your paper (three visuals in total). 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. You may include these at the end and label them Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.
2. The total length of this paper should be **at least 4 pages but no more than 5**. 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.
3. Follow APA style citation (see Purdue OWL) for both the in-text citation and the reference page.

GENERAL HOW-TO

1. Navigate first to tags.hawksey.info. Select TAGS 6.1.
2. Select “Make Copy.” If you haven’t already, you will be asked to login with your Gmail account (I recommend using your Endicott account. Everything will automatically save into your Drive). Allow the permissions to proceed. NOTE: If you are logged into multiple Gmail accounts, you will have to log out of everything and open a new window. I recommend using Google Chrome and opening and Incognito Window if you have any issues.
3. Setup Twitter access in order to access tweets. Select the TAGS toolbar at the top and then ‘Setup Twitter Access.” Follow the prompts. You will only have to do this once.
4. Enter a search term, either a hashtag, a user, or a combination.
5. In the Advanced settings, you can select the time period to pull tweets from (up to the last 7 days) or keep the default. You can also add a term to filter out as well as select the number of tweets you want to pull.
6. Select the TAGS toolbar, ADD Summary Sheet and ADD Dashboard Sheet. You will need to ‘turn on’ the sheet at the top right corner.
7. Select the TAGS toolbar and Run Now!
8. The Archive will have the compilation of tweets and the Summary and Dashboard sheets will have more trend analyses and detailed information.
9. Then, to use TAGSExplorer and a network analysis, you have to publish your search. File, Publish to Web. Then click ‘Share’ at the top right and make sure you have selected any of the public options, such as On—Anyone with the link.
10. Select TAGSExplorer on the first sheet/homepage. Tip: Nodes are the entities we are evaluating (People, Pages, Handles, Groups, etc.) and edges are the connections between them (Likes, Following, Friendships, etc.).

Using Voyant

1. In order to get more nuanced and sophisticated analyses, you will need to navigate to <https://voyant-tools.org/>.
2. Before you can import your tweets, you must CLEAN your data. This means you have to go through and remove any characters that are going to detrimentally impact your analysis, such as emojis or links. We are working on a script to do this, but for now you have to do it manually.
3. Once you have done that, you can copy and paste the tweets into Voyant, ensuring each tweet is on its own line.
4. Click reveal
5. <https://voyant-tools.org/docs/#!/guide/about> This guide provides visual how-to’s of how to import data as well as what each analytical tool does.

FOR EXTRA HELP:

* See the guides on Canvas
* Tech Fellows are also available for assistance! https://dla.endicott.edu/#techfellows