

INFORMATION ON ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Research paper on any information policy topic, with topic subject to prior approval.**

I have purposely left the choice of topic quite vague, as I wish to provide you with a lot of freedom to choose a topic that is interesting to you. You may select a topic from one of the areas in the course outline or propose any other. The default format is a single-author research paper, but other possibilities are acceptable with prior approval.

Key deadlines:

Tuesday, February 14: One-page proposal with working title, brief description, initial reference(s), and other relevant information.

Friday, May 12: Paper due (3:00 PM)

2. **Class presentation.**

You have the choice of either (or both) of the following options:

- a. Present your research paper in class, covering both the specific topic and, if appropriate, the broader context. (This is, by far, the more common option.)
- b. Select one of the topics or sub-topics from the course outline and lead the class discussion. Joint presentations are possible with prior approval.

Although it might appear as though (a) involves less work than (b), this may not be the case. First, in most cases I would expect the paper itself to be more focused than the presentation, so you will need to prepare additional material on the broader context. Second, the presentation will occur before the paper is due, so some coordination—and possibly a speed-up—will be necessary.

Key deadline:

Tuesday, February 14: One-page proposal describing area of presentation. (Can be less, especially if coordinated with the paper.)