

(April 14, 2015)

Good day, everyone, and welcome to spring!

OK, one administrative detail ... your final exam (bwa-ha-ha).

Actually, I am not inclined to give you an exam, and I suspect that you, too, would rather not write such a silly thing. That being the case, we will dispense with any and all exams. Sorry, I know that saddens you greatly.

However, I would like a final project from you; the details are as follows:

1. Select a communication-related topic. This could be something from our class, something related to your home country, or something related to communication in general. Off the top of my head, here are some examples:
 - A. Handwriting
 - B. Calligraphy
 - C. E-mail etiquette
 - D. Blogging and other CMC (computer-mediated communication)
 - E. Possible selves
 - F. Politeness
 - G. Use of technology for communication
 - H. Advertising language
2. Explore the **theoretical** underpinnings of your topic (e.g., head for the library or the Internet). I imagine at least 3-5 academic sources would be a good beginning.
3. Explore (describe, introduce, analyze) a **real-world** context in which your topic is of importance. Consider adding real, living data (sound like an interview or field observations?)
4. Present your results in two ways:
 - A. A written paper of 6-8 pages with proper APA format (by July 31).
 - B. An oral presentation on July 21.
5. Additional thoughts ...
 - ✓ Details from your country? Sure ...
 - ✓ Topic based on one of our readings from class? Sure ...
 - ✓ Topic we haven't considered? Talk to me, but probably OK ...
6. Some topics from last year's class
 - ✓ My Facebook World
 - ✓ Use of Technology in Education
 - ✓ Influence of Javanese Culture on Its Language Politeness
 - ✓ Impact of Mass Media on Children in Bhutan
 - ✓ Calligraphy in Japan
 - ✓ Japanized English in Advertising
 - ✓ Politeness and Requests via Email

