

Assignment 1 (Research Paper): Topic Choices

Due: Mon Jan 26, 2026 11:59pmDue: Mon Jan 26, 2026 11:59pm

Ungraded, 25 Possible Points25 Points Possible

Attempt

In Progress

NEXT UP: Submit Assignment

1 Attempt Allowed

Each student will need to pick a particular state or federal law (U.S. laws only) relating to technology and then will write a research paper discussing the law as well as highlighting major cases and their outcomes through district, appellate, and supreme court decisions as well as the student's opinions on how the law may need to be updated or changed due to current advances in technology. Bills that have not become law should not be chosen for your topic choices.

Assignment 1 will ultimately consist of four separate submissions:

Topic Choices - 25 points (This Submission)

Outline - 50 points

Bibliography - 25 points

Paper - 100 points

The Canvas text editor will be used for this submission. Please provide your top three picks of U.S. state or federal laws related to technology that you would like to write your paper on along with.

For **each** of the three laws, I would like:

1-3 paragraphs: Description of each law and a link to each.

1-3 paragraphs: What part of each law do you think is outdated and why.

I would recommend choosing laws that interest you and that you feel may be outdated and in need of change due to technological advancement. Also, please order the laws in order of preference (top/favorite, bottom/least favorite).

To search for federal laws, the below search resource works well.

<https://www.congress.gov/advanced-search/legislation>Links to an external site.

Start by selecting the date ranges you are interested in. Then, either include technology related terms of interest under "Words and Phrases" to find technology related laws of interest or select "Science, Technology, Communications" under "Policy Areas."

Under "Legislation Types," be sure to leave "Only legislation that can become law" unchecked but put a check under "Only bills that became law."

To search for state laws, each state's legislature website generally has a search tool to view permanent laws and statutes.

Lastly, this assignment should be in your own words so please do not copy/paste descriptions or other people's opinions.

You may also find it helpful to Google various law topics to see if any are of interest. Please make sure to verify using federal or state government sites to ensure whatever legislation you are looking at actually became law and isn't simply in bill status.

Maria will get back to you shortly after the assignment has been completed to let you know which law you will write your paper about. While there may be some overlap, my ultimate goal is to have all students writing about different laws.

Lastly, please do not work on this assignment during class or with other students.

Assignment 1 - Topic Choices

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Criteria	Ratings
Descriptions of three laws	Exceeds Expectations Well thought out detailed descriptions of each law 10 pts

	<p>Meets Expectations</p> <p>Basic descriptions of each law</p> <p>8 pts</p> <p>Does Not Meet Expectations</p> <p>No descriptions were provided or were provided for less than three laws</p> <p>0 pts</p>
Hyperlinks to each of the three laws were provided	<p>Meets Expectations</p> <p>Three hyperlinks were provided</p> <p>5 pts</p> <p>Does Not Meet Expectations</p> <p>Less than three hyperlinks were provided</p> <p>0 pts</p>
Opinions of what part of each of the three laws may be outdated and why	<p>Exceeds Expectations</p> <p>Great effort towards well thought out opinions</p> <p>10 pts</p> <p>Meets Expectations</p> <p>Good effort provided towards opinions</p> <p>8 pts</p> <p>Does Not Meet Expectations</p> <p>No opinions were provided or were provided for less than three laws</p> <p>0 pts</p>