

Term Paper from Dr. Dongsung Kong of San Jose State University

Research Paper (Presentation & Paper) 30 pts. (30%)

Proposal 05 pts.

Participation/Discussion: 05 pts.

Presentation: 05 pts.

Written Paper: 15 pts.

Total 30 pts.

Here are step-by-step suggestions:

STEP 1: Pilot Study: Explore current literature (journal articles, government publications, etc.) relating to performance-based budgeting in general. Please read 4-6 current (published within the last 5 years) articles in reputable journals (i.e., *Public Administration Review*, *Public Budgeting & Finance*, etc.). This pilot study will help you understand *what is going on* (the State of Research and Practice) in the field of performance-based budgeting.

STEP 2: Topic Selection: Identify a specific topic (i.e., measurement, alignment, costing, benchmarking, planning/implementation, etc.) that you want to research further for your paper. Explore current literature relating to your own specific topic.

STEP 3: Case Study: Identify an exemplary case or cases relating to your topic. You may find exemplary cases from the following resources:

- <http://www.aspanet.org> (Center for Accountability and Performance: Case Studies),
- Books and journals (i.e., *Public Administration Review*, *Public Budgeting & Finance*, etc.), or
- Your own field research.

STEP 4: Proposal: Write/discuss your proposal with the instructor as early as possible (prior to the 10th week of the semester). Your proposal must include:

- Research topic
- Significance of the Topic: Is it worth studying further?
- A list of cases that you plan to analyze
- A list of articles/documents you read and plan to read

STEP 5: Final Paper: Your final paper should contain, at least, the following:

- cover page (the title, an abstract within 200 words, your name)
- introduction (including the purpose, significance, current trend) 1-2 pages
- case analysis by issues 6-9 pages
- discussions (explore new problems/solutions) 1-2 pages
- research suggestions (what should be done to advance our knowledge and practice) 1-2 pages
- bibliography

Paper Format: Your final paper will be 10-15 pages, double spaced, and type-written. You are strongly recommended to use acceptable formats and styles of paper writing (see

PAR). You should take care that appropriate citations are used. Direct quotations must be so indicated with quotation marks and a specific reference to the page in the source from which it was taken. Ideas from others must also be referenced although quotation marks are inappropriate. Failure to cite your sources constitutes academic misconduct.

Evaluation: Standards of evaluation for the paper/presentation include the quality of research, writing/reasoning, & research suggestions; paper format; the quality/effectiveness of presentation; participation to the discussions; etc.