

Introduction to World Politics

The Travel Activity
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One of the purposes of this course is to familiarize you with the world outside the United States. One way of experiencing the world is to travel to far away places with strange sounding names. This assignment has you choosing an exotic city and planning a trip there. It is worth 25 points.

Greater Detail

First, choose a city in the world. Choose any city. Why did you choose this city? What is interesting about it? If you would like, you can choose Bellevue, NE. Keep in mind, however, that exotic locales will get you more points than domestic ones.

Email your destination to me before class on January 18.

Travel Route Paper

Next, determine the route you would take to get to that city. Will you fly? ...take a train? ...a cruise ship? ...a hot air balloon? ...a combination of these? However you are getting there, mark your route on a map. Exciting and complex routes will get you more points than a direct flight.

Finally, what do you need in order to get to your destination? What are the flights you will take? What are the flight numbers, takeoff times, airports (city, airport full name, and IATA abbreviation), etc.? Are you taking the train? What route (city, IATA train station code)? How much does the trip cost? How do you get the tickets? Is hitching a ride a viable option? Where will you stay when you get there? Where will you stay along the way? Will you need a passport and a visa? How much does the visa cost? Can you get it *there*, or will you have to get it *before* you leave? Can you even legally go to this location? Include all relevant information for your trip.

Type this up in an organized format; include an itemized budget; attach the map, with your route highlighted; and email the whole thing to me before class on February 6. The filename needs to be your class login name, .doc (or .rtf). For example, the filename for my project would be *ojf38491.doc*.

Power Point Presentation

Now, find photographs of your destination and include those with your map in a PowerPoint file, so all can see how wonderful your destination is. If you wish, you can include pictures from your route. Email this PowerPoint to me before class on February 6. The filename needs to be your class login name, .ppt, (*ojf38491.ppt* for me).

Come to class on the day it is due and *be prepared* to talk about your (virtual) trip. Perhaps you will not present on *that* day, but you will be presenting.

Grading

Your grade is based on: how well you follow directions; how complete your paper is; how complex your route is *compared to others in the class*; and the visual interest of your PowerPoint.

A note on complex routes: If your route contains 5 segments and Student B's route contains the class-high of 25 segments, your completeness score will be 20%. If, however, your route has 2 segments and is the highest in the class, your completeness score will be 100%.

What counts as a segment? A change of transport or a change of transport company both count as a segment. Thus, were I to travel from OMA to LHR on United, then flew to AMS aboard KLM, then took the inter-city train to The Hague, the total number of segments in my route would be three. Your trip to Bangkok could be a plane flight from OMA to LHR aboard Northwest, a short-hopper to Paris aboard Air France, a EuRail trip to Berlin, where you catch the Trans-Siberian Railroad to Beijing, followed by the East Asian Rail to Bangkok. This would be five segments.

Please note that more segments means more time finding prices and visa regulations. Fewer segments risks your completeness score. Competition is fun.

Current Destinations

Below is a map indicating the states containing the current destinations for the members of this class.

