Group Facilitation and Restorative Practice (M6X00967)
Assignment 2: Essay (30%)
Suggested Guidance

Write an essay based on your presentation, evaluating the impact and influence of the work of the 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission' with reference to your case study, and to include further reflection on implications for forgiveness.

Date: 27 November 2018

3,000 – 3,500 words (+/- 10%)

Points to consider:

- Have a clear thread through your work
- Sections need to clearly link
- It's a good idea to start your paper broad, have specific aims at the end of your introduction, and then have a detailed 'meaty' part in the middle
- Towards the end, get back to the big picture, preferably the same context that you started with
- Don't assume your reader has background knowledge beyond the obvious - ask yourself how you would need to explain the general gist of your paper to your friend who studies a different discipline
- Provide clear definitions for specific words and concepts e.g. reconciliation, so your reader understands what is meant

Title Page

- You will need to include a 'title'/'cover' page.
- This will consist of your title, for example – '*An evaluation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission with reference to the Rwandan Genocide*'
- It will also include your name and P number.

Implicit structure: no headers

- Introduction
- Background (providing context)
- Discussion including the place and significance of forgiveness
- Conclusion
- Implications
- References

Introduction

- **A good introduction will**:
  - show that you are going to answer the question or complete the task
  - show that you understand the issues and their implications
  - show how you are going to do this by indicating the structure of your answer and making clear the main areas that you are going to write about (your plan)
  - show evidence that you have carried out some research by making a reference to one of your sources
  - be totally relevant
  - be concise: 8-9% of the total number of words is usually recommended (e.g. 250/300 words in a 3,000/3,500 word assignment).

Background

- **A background serves several purposes**:
- It signposts pertinent literature. It is not a literature review but shows your understanding of the field, that is the salient contributions of those upon whose work your work builds.
- Background highlights the empirical foundation of the work. The purpose is to give the reader the relevant facts about your topic so that they understand the material that you are writing about and how it links to your case study.
- This section will provide the general context and history of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission , and direct the readers' attention to the empirical details through which your case study is relevant.

Discussion

The Discussion… is probably the longest section. It brings everything together, showing how your findings respond to the brief you explained in your introduction and the research you surveyed in your literature. It is here that you will evaluate the work of the TRC and/or other Peace Commissions or process and the relevance, significance and impact of the concept of forgiveness to its commissions/process and mandate. This is the place to mention any challenges you faced (e.g. what you found out was different from expectations, you couldn't find important data, or you had to change your approach or opinion) and how they were or could have been addressed.

Conclusion

- The conclusion summarises the major inferences that can be drawn from the information presented in the essay. It answers the question/s raised in the title or stated purpose of the piece (Blake & Bly, 1993) and states the conclusions reached.
- Your conclusion should also attempt to show 'what it all means': the significance of what you have found/learned and its impact (Weaver & Weaver, 1977).
- The conclusion/s presented should be related to, resulting from and justified by the material which appears in the essay and should not introduce any new material.

Implications/Recommendations

- These should follow on logically from your conclusion and be specific, measurable and achievable.
- They should propose how the situation/problem could be improved by suggesting action to be taken or what can be learned from what you have found.

References

- The Reference List… list full details for any works you have referred to in the essay.
- Use the Harvard style of referencing.