I. Topic: Expand upon a major element discussed in a chapter of your choice from *Incarceration Nations*. Support your discussion with two outside sources. The focus will depend upon your chapter choice, as not all chapters discuss the same elements of incarceration. Possibilities include—but are not limited to—the effectiveness of the country's incarceration solutions, the way inmates improve themselves, or the cultural or financial influences on incarceration. Again, consider what your chapter is about.

II. Format: The paper should be in Times New Roman, 12 point.
   a. Your last name and page number should be in the right corner of the header.
      i. All other information should be in the body area of the page.
   b. You should have a centered title and all paragraphs should indent the first line
      i. Turn off the space-after-paragraph.
   c. No I, me, my, mine, you, your, or yours

III. Length: The paper should be a minimum of 500 words and a maximum 750.
   a. Include the word count after the last line of your text.

IV. Sources: There should be two reputable sources referenced in your paper beyond your chapter.
   a. *Time, People, Newsweek*, or anything else that you can find on the Barnes & Noble newsstand are not classified as reputable in this context. See me if uncertain.
   b. Additionally, anything that is .com or .org is not acceptable. You may use one .gov site.
   c. The total number of sources may go beyond three (including your chapter), but you need at least two of the reputable sources.
      i. These are sources that are used in the paper, not just ones that you looked at in your research. Thus, if you have a dozen sources and try to quote or reference all of them in your paper, you're going to have an incoherent result. Try to stay close to the three sources standard.
   d. The sources selected must be full articles of at least 5 pages (unless a .gov site). Abstracts, summaries, and three-paragraph reviews are unacceptable.
V. Citation: You must properly quote from some sources and properly introduce and cite all sources used in your text.

a. The majority of your text—about 75%—should be your words, ideas, and analysis. Quotes and source references are there to help you to prove your point. Over-reliance on other sources weakens your paper and heads you toward plagiarism.

i. Plagiarism will result in an F. Extensive plagiarizing (like 60% or more) will get a zero: you weren't really doing any work beyond copying and pasting—thus, no credit.

b. Include a works cited page starting on the next page after your text. If your essay's last word is at the top of page 4, your works cited page will begin at the top of page 5.

i. The works cited page should be part of the regular pagination of your paper.

ii. The works cited page is not counted toward your final word count.