The purpose of a position paper is to describe your position on an issue. The rationale for your position should be based on facts that provide a solid foundation for your argument. This paper should be a critical examination of a position using facts and analytical reasoning and addressing both strengths and weaknesses of your opinion. Sections of the Position Paper Your position paper should contain four main sections: 1. Introduction: identify the issue that will be discussed and state your position on that issue. 2. Body of the paper: present the main argument. In this section, you should include the following sections: o Provide background information on the issue. o Provide evidence supporting your position on the issue. o Discuss both sides of the issue, which address and refute arguments that contradict your position. 3. Conclusion: restate the key points and, where applicable, suggest resolutions to the issue. 4. References: The references page should acknowledge all the sources used for obtaining information. Use the APA guidelines. While I do not have a hard rule about the exact number of sources, I expect at least 5 peer reviewed sources – these include articles, books, chapters in edited volumes -- published by reputable sources (university presses, major commercial publishers, research institutes, etc.). You can also use other sources (web, non- peer reviewed academic or policy publications, official websites, or publications of int’l organizations, etc.). Note that Wikipedia-type sources should not be used as these can be edited by anyone and are not subject to rigorous review by scholars in the field. Format: Use Microsoft Word. The paper should be double spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font size and 5-7 pages.