

Research Paper Overview

The final project takes you through the various stages for developing an academic paper. This research project breaks into multiple sections allowing for specific revision points along the way.

FINAL PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The final goal of this project is to produce a well-written research paper based on a *cause-effect analysis* which demonstrates understanding of the following:

- how to analyze an audience and select an appropriate written communication style.
- how to prepare a research paper, utilizing a variety of sources.
- how to synthesize information from a variety of sources into a document.

SECTIONS

01. Formally declare a topic and thesis statement. Due 06.20.11
02. Gather preliminary research; construct paper.
03. Print articles out to include with finalized printed paper.
 - find 5 database articles to use for evidence; these will be presented with your paper. Be sure to highlight portions of the articles to show what you quote and paraphrase within your paper.
04. Generate in-depth research.
05. Turn in first two pages of Final Project Due 06.27.11
05. Create a preliminary Works Cited Page. Due 06.29.11
06. Present seven page document, print and digital. Due 07.01.11
Printed version will be presented in pocket folder with all articles & summaries.

FINAL DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Seven (7) full pages, *plus* an additional work cited page; appendix is optional.
- Entire paper is double spaced, following MLA standard template

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THEME MUST COVER A SOCIAL ISSUE:

• *The paper itself will not be a persuasion piece but focus primarily on information.*

In other words, despite the fact these issues are controversial and despite the fact you will have an opinion on these topics, you are gathering information to show the development of the issue; you are not generating an editorial.

• Your sources of information must be non-biased and objective. However, due to the nature of these issues, your sources may show a preference for one side of the debate.

• The end result of the paper may propose an opinion or a resolution on the topic, however the main goal is not to express your personal feelings or memories, but rather to show you can gather and present research material.

The following subjects are broad topics which will need to be narrowed down to a limited subject.

Alcohol & Drinking

Animal Rights

Binge Drinking

Censorship

Civil Rights

Environmental Protection of Species

Gender issues (Equal Rights for Women)

Genetic Engineering

Global Warming

Immigration / National Border Wall

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer in schools

Racial profiling

Same sex unions (GLBT rights)

Stem Cell Research

Terrorism Global or Domestic

Tobacco & Anti-Smoking Laws

Wild Card (*must be pre-approved*)

Subjects to Avoid:

Abortion

Capital Punishment

Creationism vs. Evolution

Gun Control

Legalization of Marijuana

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