

Research Paper ENGLISH 1301

TYPED Rough draft due Wednesday, Dec. 2
Final draft due Monday, Dec. 7

NO LATE RESEARCH PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!

What is a research paper? It is a more in-depth study of a specific topic that includes the same type of organization that goes into any type of formal essay.

What should I keep in mind as I write my research paper?

As presented in *The Prentice Hall Guide for College Writers*, you should focus on the following:

1. Establish a specific purpose, audience, and form for your paper.
2. Find the best that has been written or said about your subject.
3. Use sources to make your point.
4. Document your sources both in the text (parenthetical citation) and at the end of the paper (works cited).

How long should the paper be and how many sources do I need?

The paper should be at least **5-7 pages in length, 12-point font, and double-spaced**. You must have at least **5 sources** to back up all main points.

YOU MUST USE AT LEAST THREE DATABASE SOURCES. THE OTHER TWO SOURCES CAN BE DATABASE, INTERNET (INSTRUCTOR MUST APPROVE INTERNET SOURCES), PRINT, OR PRIMARY. YOU MUST HAVE PRINTOUTS OF ALL SOURCES USED IN YOUR RESEARCH PAPER OR YOUR RESEARCH PAPER WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ALL INFORMATION USED IN YOUR RESEARCH PAPER MUST BE HIGHLIGHTED. IF YOU USE A PRINT SOURCE, YOU MUST COPY THE TITLE PAGE AND ANY SPECIFIC PAGES USED FOR INFORMATION IN YOUR PAPER.

What do I need to hand in on the due date?

1. Title Page
2. Formal Outline
3. Final Draft
4. Works Cited
5. Working Outline
6. Typed and Edited Rough Draft (initialed and dated by instructor)
7. Completed Editing Checklist
8. Copies of All Sources Used (with information used in paper highlighted) and bib cards stapled to the front of EACH source in alphabetical order

Please turn in items 1-8 in a 2-pocket folder with brads. Items **1-4** should be **inside the brads**. The **front pocket** should contain items **5-7** while the back folder will hold the articles found in item **7**. Sources should be organized in **ALPHABETICAL** order (the same order they appear on your Works Cited page with MLA citation information – bib card-- stapled to the front).

How many points is my research paper worth?

Due to the fact that a research paper takes much time and consideration, it will count more than other out of class essays. The research paper is worth a total of 300 points, 50 of which you earn before handing in the paper.

Due dates to remember/grading criteria:

Monday, Nov. 2 Working thesis handout **10 pts.**

Monday, Nov. 9 Research printouts (5 sources) **15 pts.**

Wednesday, Nov. 18 Rough Outline (use outline handout) **10 pts.**

Wednesday, Dec. 2 Typed Rough Draft **15 pts.**

***YOU MUST BRING A TYPED ROUGH DRAFT ON THE DAY IT IS DUE
OR YOUR FINAL PAPER WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

Monday, Dec. 7: **FINAL DRAFT. NO LATE PAPERS ACCEPTED.**
***YOU MUST BRING YOUR PAPER TO CLASS DURING THE FIRST HOUR
OF YOUR SCHEDULED CLASS TIME.***

Grading of research paper after it is handed in. (250 points)

Content of paper: Cover sheet, title, outline, introduction, clear thesis, topic sentences, content of body paragraphs, conclusion, organization, coherence.
100 points

Grammar/mechanics: 100 points

Research, documentation: (parenthetical citations, works cited page, source copies – highlighted and with a bib card stapled to the front of each one) 50 points

If you keep up with the work as we go along, you will be able to earn more points. One of the keys to writing a successful research paper is to spread the work out and give yourself plenty of time for planning, research, writing, and several revisions.