**Individual Research Paper Assignment**

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| **Research Paper**  Based on your interest and relating to the course, write a research paper consisting of 2000-2500 words (excluding Abstract and References). This will require you to provide four deliverables according to the schedule:   1. **Topic**   Topic should be based on a research question. The first step in writing a research paper is to develop a research question. Students have to find answer to his/her research question by conducting research and by reviewing existing literature and the material covered in class and from the text books. Before coming up with a topic it is best to brainstorm ideas, conduct some research and come up with a question/topic that has not been addressed before. Please feel free to communicate with the instructor in choosing a topic.   1. **Outline**   This should include a general outline and a plan of what you will include in your research paper. This could be a one to two page(s) document.   1. **Peer Review**   You will need to Peer Review three students’ papers to give feedback on meeting the specifications.   1. **Paper**   After having thought about your topic and research question and after having read related journal articles, you should have generated notes that would lead to a research paper.   1. **Incorporated Peer Review Feedback**   A full-page explanation of how the peer review feedback was incorporated into the final version of your research paper.   1. **Presentation**   Students are required to create a PowerPoint presentation that will summarize their individual research paper, record the presentation with the PowerPoint with the presenter’s face giving the presentation, and post it under the Discussion Board’s Presentations thread.  Research Paper Structure  Each paper should have the following structure.  Title  Include the following items:   * Title of Paper * Author’s Name * Course Name * Instructor Name   Abstract  Its purpose is to make it possible for potential readers to quickly find out if the work is relevant to their needs and worth reading. It must not be more than 150 words. In general, an abstract should contain the following information:   * Background: A simple opening sentence or two placing the work in context. * Aims: One or two sentences giving the purpose of the work. * Method(s): One or two sentences explaining what was done. * Results: One or two sentences indicating the main findings. * Conclusions: One sentence giving the most important consequence of the work.   Introduction   * Set the context – provide general information about the main idea, explaining the situation so the reader can make sense of the topic and the claims you make and support. An introduction should tell the reader explicitly what the thesis (the point of the paper) is. After having read the introduction, the reader should have no doubt about what the central point of your paper is. * State the motivation for writing on this topic – mention why the main idea is important. Tell the reader why s/he should care and keep reading. Your goal is to create a compelling, clear, and convincing essay people will want to read and act upon. An introduction should attract the reader's attention. You should convince your audience that it should care about what you have to say, though attention to relevance and significance is part of constructing a successful thesis. * Clearly state your research question and explain your problem area.   Literature Review  The purpose of the literature resource is to convey to your reader what knowledge and ideas have been established on a topic, and what their strengths and weaknesses are. As a piece of writing, the literature review must be defined by a guiding concept (e.g., your research objective, the problem or issue you are discussing or your argumentative thesis). It is not just a descriptive list of the material available, or a set of summaries. A literature review is an evaluative report of studies found in the literature related to your research problem. The review should describe, summarize, evaluate and clarify this literature.  Analysis  Develop your analysis using brainstorming and mind mapping. Both techniques will be explained.  In analysis section, you would present the results of your research. Mention the answers and list your analysis and recommendations here. You should generalize on what you have learned from your research. One way to generalize is to explain the consequences or meaning of your results and then make your points that support and refer back to the statements you made in your introduction. Your discussion should be organized so that it relates directly to your thesis. You want to avoid introducing new ideas here or discussing tangential issues not directly related to the exploration and discovery of your thesis. This section, along with the introduction, is usually written in present tense.  There are specific conventions for creating tables, charts, and graphs and organizing the information they contain. In general, you should use these only when you are sure they will enlighten your readers rather than confuse them. In the accompanying explanation and your discussion, always refer to the graphic by number and explain specifically what you are referring to. Give your graphic element a descriptive caption as well. The rule of thumb for presenting a graphic is first to introduce it by name, show it, and then interpret it. The results section is usually written in past tense.  Conclusion  A good conclusion to a research paper is the logical outcome of all that has been said earlier. Usually, the thesis statement is repeated but not in exactly the same wording. It is useful to restate the main points of your paper in a much more summarized form and in different words before restating the controlling idea. Some extra points that might be included in the conclusion are:   * + What are the contributions of this literature to the field?   + What are the overall strengths?   + What are the overall weaknesses?   + Are there any gaps in the literature?   + What are some next steps for research? The next steps should explicitly address how to “correct” for strengths, weaknesses, and gaps.   Feedback Incorporation of Peer Review  Include a full-page summary of how you have incorporated the feedback that was received during the peer review process in your final draft of the paper.  List of References  Use the MLA style of referencing with 100% match between Works Cited and In-text citations. If all Works Cited are not used at least once or In-text citations are missing Works Cited source, the paper will lose 20% of the grade for each issue!  Peer Review  You will need to Peer Review three students’ papers to give feedback on meeting the specifications.   * + Completed under Discussions button in Blackboard   + Please create a NEW THREAD to submit your Individual Paper for Peer Review here by the due date   + Students will REPLY to the thread when reviewing students' papers.   + Evaluate the peer reviews for the following guidelines     - * All in-text citations are listed in Works Cited by first combinations of unique word(s)       * All Works Cited are used at least once in the body of the paper as an parenthetical in-text citation       * All in-text citations have page or paragraph numbers noted       * Works Cite is properly formatted       * Paper is 2,000 - 2,500 words long       * Proposal is included       * Paper is written at the proper grade level in proper formal English proses       * Paper has been grammar checked       * Research is done properly       * Cultural & change management is addressed       * Paper is interesting       * Overall cohesiveness       * Quality introduction       * Quality conclusion   + You are to complete your peer review on the three students below your name. If you are one of the last three students on the list, start over at the top to complete three peer reviews.   + All peer reviews should be at least two pages written for each paper reviewed. Therefore, you will be writing at least 6 pages (2 pages for each of the 3 students you review).   Entire project will take approximately 600 mins |