

Project 2: Article Critique & Presentation

For Project 2, your group will be choosing a peer reviewed article from an approved journal on either Leadership or Teams in Organizations. The group will write an article critique in the same manner as Homework 5 and then deliver a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on the article. The purposes of this project are (1) to familiarize the class current issues in IO Psychology, (2) to expose students to empirical research, and (3) to practice written and oral communication skills. The remainder of this document provides specific instructions for each task, as well as grading information and due dates.

Process and Timeline

Step 1 – Topic Choice

Each group must email the instructor their rank order preference of the two topics (i.e., Leadership and Teams) by **Tuesday, March 28th at class time**. Please send only ONE email per group! The instructor will then assign each group a topic with every attempt to give groups their first choice. If too many groups choose one option, decisions will be made based on who emailed the instructor first. If a group does not email the instructor, 5% will be deducted from the final project grade and a topic will be assigned. Groups will receive topic assignments no later than **10:00pm Thursday, March 30th**.

Step 2 – Article Selection

Select 1 article relevant to your assigned topic that was published in or more recently than 2010 from one of the approved journals. Submit a PDF of your article to the instructor via email for approval by **Thursday, April 6th at 11:59pm**. Failure to submit the article on time for approval will result in a 5% deduction from the final project grade. Duplicate articles will not be allowed across groups, and will be accepted on a “first come first serve” basis. Approved journals include:

- Journal of Applied Psychology
- Personnel Psychology
- Journal of Business and Psychology
- Academy of Management Journal
- Academy of Management Learning and Education
- Other peer-reviewed journal that is pre-approved by the instructor

Step 3 – Read and Critique Article

The ENTIRE group should read and review the article. Then, each group will write an article critique using the guidelines provided later in this document. Each group must submit one final critique by **Wednesday, April 19th at 11:59pm**.

Step 4 – Presentation

As a group, prepare a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation using the guidelines provided later in this document. Each group must submit a final presentation by **Wednesday, April 19th at 11:59pm**. In-class presentations will be given on **April 20, 25**. Your group will be assigned a presentation day when the topics are assigned.

Summary of Due Dates

Assignment	Due Date	Time
Group's Topic Choice	28-Mar	Class time
Topic & Presentation Date Assignment from Instructor	30-Mar	10:00pm
Group's Article Selection	6-Apr	11:59pm
Final Group Article Critique	19-Apr	11:59pm
Final Group PowerPoint Presentation	19-Apr	11:59pm
Group Presentations	20 and 25-Apr	In class

Article Critique Guidelines (30 Points)

1. After having an article approved, read the article and write an article critique. Critiques should be at least 2 typed pages in length (12 pt. font, double-spaced with 1" margins) and adhere to APA formatting. All writing in the report should be **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**. Copying from the article is a violation of Academic Integrity and will result in you being charged with plagiarism. As a general writing hint, the authors' full names and title of the article should NOT appear in your response.
2. Write the report as follows:
 - a. You should write a half-page summary of the article including (**deduct 1 point** if summary is longer than half-page):
 - i. The purpose of the study as you understand it and a VERY brief summary of the hypotheses (i.e., what is the main research question; **3 point**)
 - ii. A brief description of the research including the design (experimental/correlational) and identification of the IV/DV (or predictor/criterion; **3 point**).
 - iii. A description of the results/findings of the study. You do not need to cite statistics; just summarize what was found. (**3 point**)
 - b. After the summary you should write at least 1.5-page answering the following questions:
 - i. What was the most interesting finding from the article? Why was it interesting and what theoretical or practical application does the finding have? (**4 points**)
 - ii. What are the one or two questions you had about the research as you read the study? Elaborate on your questions. Your questions could be related to the limitations, directions for future, or the research area in general. (**4 points**)
 - iii. What are the limitations of the study? This includes, but is not limited to, whether the study design matches the hypotheses, whether the analysis strategy matches the study design, whether a representative sample was utilized, whether the study is generalizable, etc. (**6 points**)
 - iv. What was the main point you took away from the article in terms of leadership or teams? In other words, how could an organization, employee, or yourself use the information in the article? (**7 points**)

Presentation Guidelines (20 Points)

Prepare the presentation in Microsoft PowerPoint

1. Maximum of 7 slides! *Remember, you have only 10 minutes - not more!*
2. Requirements for the 7 slides:
 - a. Title slide (similar info to summary title page – see next slide);
 - b. “Background” slide;
 - c. “Research Questions/Hypotheses” slide;
 - d. “Participants & Method” slide;
 - e. “Main Results” slide,
 - f. “Discussion” slide;
 - g. “Practical Implications” slide.
3. Under “Practical Implications” make sure to discuss the implications of the findings for organizations, employees, AND yourselves.
4. The rubric used to grade the presentation is provided at the end of this document.

Determination of Grade

Each group will receive the same grade for the project. The grade will be the sum of the points earned on the article critique and presentation (graded based on the rubrics provided) minus any deductions incurred for late work. Under extreme circumstances, the instructor may give individuals in a group a different grade.

Submission Instructions

Assignments should be submitted via Blackboard by the due date provided. Please name your article critique and presentation using your Group number. For example, “Group 1_Article Critique.docx”

PRESENTATION RUBRIC

GROUP NUMBER _____

PRESENTATION**Opening/Closing**

Poor or no introduction or closing (e.g., presentation starts/ends abruptly).

1 2 3 4 5

Thorough introduction and closing (e.g., presenters provide introductory info about the article and presentation ends with a thank you or other summary).

Coverage and Knowledge of material

Poor coverage of topic area. Poor knowledge of the article. Main points are incompletely or unclearly described.

1 2 3 4 5

Article covered completely enough for a naïve observer to fully understand. Complete knowledge of article. Clear description of main points.

Presentation Style (i.e., eye contact, elocution)

Group reads all of report with no eye contact. Group mumbles, incorrectly pronounces terms, and speaks too quietly for students in the back of class to hear.

1 2 3 4 5

Student maintains eye contact with audience, seldom returning to notes. Student uses a clear voice and correct, precise pronunciation of terms so that all audience members can hear presentation.

VISUAL AIDS**Quality**

Poorly prepared. Hard to read. Irrelevant to the topic. Presentation has four or more spelling errors and/or grammatical errors.

1 2 3 4 5

Well prepared. Easy to read. Relevant to the topic. Presentation has no misspellings or grammatical errors.