**Requirements for your Final Paper.**

*Vigorous writing is concise. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and, a machine no unnecessary parts. This requires not that the writer make all sentences short, or that he avoids all detail and treat his subjects only in outline, but that every word tell.*

William Strunk, Jr., The Elements of Style (MacMillan Publishing Company, New York, 1979), 3rd ed., p. 23.

A research paper presents the results of your investigations on a selected topic. Based on your own thoughts and the facts and ideas you have gathered from a variety of sources, a research paper is your own **synthesis** of these facts and ideas, with complete documentation of where those facts and ideas came from. In this sense a research paper is a new work that you create by consulting several sources to answer a research question.

**A research paper is not a summary of an article or book or a collection of summaries of articles or books. You should demonstrate that you understand the problem(s) by interpreting and evaluating the information you present.**

The purpose of writing a research paper is two-fold:

1. **to broaden your knowledge of a specific topic, and**
2. **most importantly to help you gain experience in writing such papers. The experience is in gathering, interpreting, and documenting information, developing, and organizing ideas and conclusions, and communicating them. All of which constitute an important part of your education**.

**STRUCTURE**

**Your will use the APA format please see attached sample APA format paper.**

**Abstract:** Summary of the paper - 100-150 words

**Your paper should have:**

**Introduction:** Statement of the problem by providing background information and outlining what you intend to do in the body of the paper. The Introduction should end with a paragraph describing what is done in each section of the paper.

**Body:**

Presenting the results of your research in an organized and consistent manner. It should be clearly seen that you understand the material well.

Use every opportunity to analyze critically different views on the subject you are presenting - this is the best way to demonstrate understanding.

Avoid writing mere summaries of what other authors have written on the subject. Give your opinion.   
**The body of the paper can be divided into sections - see FORMAT below.**

**Conclusion:** Summary of the most important results of your research discussed in the body of the paper.

**FORMAT -** See attached APA Formatted Paper for an example.

1. The first page is your title page which will have a **title, and your name,**
2. **The next page is your abstract** (100-150 words)

**You are welcome to structure your paper to include sections for structure such as**

* Abstract
* Table of Contents
* Introduction, ...
* Body with subsections if you need.
* Conclusion(s),
* References.

**The paper should be well-structured and should demonstrate your ability to analyze the problems you are writing on. The paper should contain no typos and no grammar mistakes.**

* **This paper should be with the following:**
* **Minimum of 8 pages to a maximum of 10 pages. This page count does not and should not include title page, abstract page, Table of Contents Page or References page.**
* **1.5 spaced,**
* **Calibri font size 11,**
* **all pages should be numbered except for title page.**
* **A minimum of 10 Primary Sources are required for this paper.**
* **References will be cited according to the** [**APA citation style**](http://www.library.cornell.edu/newhelp/res_strategy/citing/mla.html) **(Click on this link if you need help).**

"A research paper is exactly that: a paper written to reflect a search that will present information to support a point of view on a particular topic" - P. Berge and C. L. Saffioti, *Basic College Research* (Neal-Schuman, New York, 1987).