

Introduction & References Sections

30 points

Instructions: Your Introduction should contain three components:

- Title page
- Introduction
- Reference section

Title page: The title page is one page (on a separate page).

It includes

- Full title of your proposal
- Your name
- Your affiliation (University of California, Merced)
- The course number and name (PSY 15: Research Methods)
- The course instructor's name and title (Dr. Haiyan Liu)
- The assignment's due date (October 25, 2023)
- A page number (which also appears on the following pages).

Introduction: This is the text/body of your introduction section. Remember that the purpose of this section is to introduce the topic, review the previous literature, state your purpose and hypothesis, and basically justify your proposed study. In the introduction you should:

- introduce the topic and make clear the importance of studying this topic
- review relevant studies that have already been conducted on this topic (i.e., explain what is already known about the topic) and discuss the relevant theories, when necessary - this is the bulk of the introduction
- justify why your proposed study is important (and why you designed it the way you did)
- explicitly state the purpose of the study
- include your hypothesis for the outcome of your study (based on previous research)

Introductions are NOT annotated bibliographies (i.e., not a list of previous studies with descriptions).

Reference section: This section states on a new page and is where you list your references. You must have at least 5 peer reviewed references and you should use proper APA formatting.

The Introduction should be at least 800 words long (about 3 ~ 3.5 pages), NOT including the title page and references.

Your grade will be based on all of the components listed above, plus

- proper in text citations (appropriate use and APA format)
- writing style (grammar, clarity, formal writing, etc.)

Formatting: APA formatting, i.e., (1) layout: 1-inch margin for top/bottom/left/right, (2) font type: Times New Roman, (3) font size: 12 points, (4) line spacing: double spaced, and (5) APA style references

Submission: Submit your work to CatCourses by **09:00 AM** on **October 25.**