



Assignment Sheet: Academic Research Report

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1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Now that you have gathered existing information and created new knowledge about your chosen issue, it's time to begin stating your case with those ideas. Your job is to report on your findings in a traditional academic research paper, styled after the journal articles you gathered for your secondary research. This paper is designed to show that you can express your conclusions and findings using a well-structured and clearly articulated academic argument. Think of this as your opportunity to contribute to the academic conversation you highlighted in your framing synthesis. The authors you discussed there are your audience for this paper. You've studied the academic conversation already; now you will participate in it.

2. PROCEDURE

- (1) Revisit your previous assignments, particularly your Research Proposal and Secondary Research Report. What had you initially set out to discover? What were your research questions? Determine how you currently answer those questions. Did you make the discovery you hoped for?
- (2) Find your reason for writing. What would you like to say to the academics studying this field?
- (3) Using all the resources you have developed this semester, talk back to those authors. Create a document that argues your point *using the language, methods, and forms common to the academic audience you first explored*. This means mimicking the structure, tone, and style of the documents you studied earlier.
- (4) Make deliberate use of ethos, logos, and pathos when you construct your argument.
- (5) Let your readers know about the benefits or implications of your work.

TABLE 1. Evaluation of Academic Research Report

	ARGUMENT	INTEGRATION	AUDIENCE
Excellent	Presents convincing argument, deftly balancing ethos, logos, & pathos	Balances outside sources & primary research, presenting each when appropriate	Meets expectations of academic audience (tone, citation, etc.) w/ rationally appropriate delivery
Adequate	Presents argument with deliberate attempt to build ethos, logos, & pathos	Shows how primary research follows from findings of secondary research sources	Demonstrates attention to academic expectations for delivery; attempts sophistication & maturity
Poor	Insufficient logos/support to carry unfounded claims; absence of ethos & pathos	No connection made between primary & secondary research	Text too personal, casual, or non-issue-focused; inappropriate for academic situation