Developmental Research Paper (Literature Review)

Deadline	Tuesdays at 11:59pm on weeks indicated on eLearn
Weight	30% in 4 milestones
Length (Guidance)	2k - 2.5k words

Format	**APA 7.0 Strict with modifications:**
	  - No "Abstract" section required
	  - Do not use direct quotes. Always paraphrase cited literature
	  - References section: omit "Retrieved from" element, use **doi** instead

Course Learning Outcomes
1. Articulate a personal understanding of specific psychological, biological and environmental factors involved in health and illness and the relationship between these factors
2. Evaluate models of health and illness, and how psychosocial factors impact health and illness trajectories, presenting the discussion in a research-based essay.
3. Discuss critically key considerations related to primary prevention and psychoeducation for health and illness management at individual and community levels.

The goal of this research paper is to show how well you comprehend, summarize and critique scientific information about the theories covered in this course. The paper will be a roughly 2000-2500—word paper in which you review a minimum of two competing theories based on textbook readings, peer-reviewed publications, and evaluate the quality of the knowledge.

Topic Selection

You will choose the topic of your term paper based on topics covered in your required readings. You may refer to a variety of sources, including textbooks, other review papers, Wikipedia, but you will need to find 5 peer-reviewed empirical research articles connected to your topic.

An empirical research article (or also known as primary research) describes an experiment that the authors conducted themselves. This is different from a review article (secondary research) where others' research is summarized. You can include review articles, but they do not count towards the minimum 5 peer-reviewed primary research article count. Same goes for books. Wikipedia and other Internet sources are not to be used in your paper, but I encourage you to use them as ways to get acquainted with your topic, and to help understand what your paper will be about.

Paper Structure
Picking two contrasting/opposing theories and showing support for each is one particularly great way to write a review paper.

Assessment Structure
You will be assessed on the (1) execution (work pattern) of your review paper and the (2) final product (the quality of the actual paper). Assessment is broken down into 3 milestones and you must meet each milestone before you can progress to the next one within the deadlines given
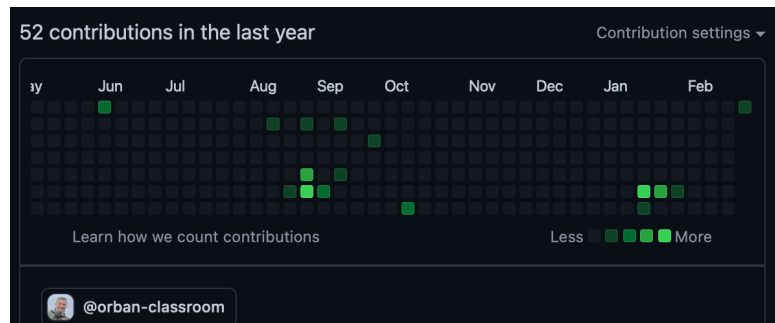
in the course outline. Failing to complete a milestone means failing the entire term paper requirement.

Initial Set up
1. Create an account on GitHub.com
2. Submit your username in the assignment module
3. Wait for an automated email from GitHub: You will receive an invitation to join a private repository
4. Look around in the repository where you have been added

Work Assessed using Punchcard
GitHub uses a punchcard to show you activity levels while working on documents. The more bits of text you change in your document, the more activity will be shown on your punchcard. Activity levels on your punchcard will be used to determine your grade on this term paper. Consequently, it is worthwhile to extend or space out your document editing to just a little bit each day, rather than to doing it in one shot.

Milestone 1
Weight: 2%, must complete to progress to the next milestone

1. Create a folder in the repository with the following structure: **LastName_StudentID**
2. Create a new file within the repository and name is "**master.md**"
   a. Your paper will be in "markdown" format. This is different from Microsoft Word or OpenOffice.
   b. Here is a cheatsheet for creating headings and lists in markdown: https://www.markdownguide.org/cheat-sheet/
3. Create a References section in your master.md document and enter the APA formatted reference for 3 papers you will consider in your paper (don't worry, it's okay if you change your mind and swap these references to different ones later on)

Milestone 2
Weight: 4%, must complete to progress to the next milestone

1. Increase your reference count to 5. Swap papers as needed.
2. Write a 1-paragraph summary for each of the papers in the references section.
   a. The paragraph can be as short as 4-5 sentences in total. Try writing one sentence to describe each section of the paper (Intro, Methods, Results, Discussion)
   b. These paragraphs can be simply written under the reference item in the References list (for now)

Milestone 3
Weight: 10%, must complete to progress to the next milestone

1. Add 2-3 paragraphs of your own critique of the papers that you have reviewed
2. The 5 references & summaries can remain as is

Milestone 4
Weight: 14%

1. Compose your paper:
   a. Add a paragraph of introductory statements (broad interest, narrowing down to the scope of your paper)
   b. Move your paper paragraphs over to the main body. Expand & write sentences to connect them — form a narrative, guide the reader
   c. Move your critique to the end of the paper. Ensure good flow
   d. Format your paper
   e. See the Essay Marking Criteria

Essay Marking Criteria

Score	Criteria
4 (85-100%)	Essay demonstrates complete understanding and execution of the assigned objectives. Thesis statement/argument is clearly stated, complex and original, and the writing does not spend excessive time on any one point of development at the expense of developing other points in the body of the paper. Writing is also error-free, without ambiguity, and reads smoothly, creatively, and with a purpose.
3 (78-84%)	Essay demonstrates considerable understanding and execution of the assigned objectives. Thesis statement/argument is stated, verges on the complex and original, and the writing shows accuracy and balance in developing body points, but may exhibit occasional weaknesses and lapses in correctness. Writing also has some errors and ambiguities, yet does read clearly and coherently.
2 (64-77%)	Essay demonstrates some understanding and execution of the assigned objectives. Thesis statement/argument is faintly stated and/or expected and not confident, and the writing is inconsistent in terms of balance in developing body points, and exhibits weaknesses and lapses in correctness. Writing also has many errors and ambiguities, and may read confusingly and incoherently.
1 (50-63%)	Essay demonstrates limited understanding and execution of the assigned objectives. Thesis statement/argument is simplistic, unoriginal, and/or not present at all, and the writing is unbalanced in developing body points, weak, and incomplete. Writing also has numerous errors and ambiguities, and reads confusingly and incoherently.

* Adapted from John Bean, Engaging Ideas, Exhibit 15.4: Holistic Scale for Grading Article Summaries (262)