

QALMRI Written Assignments

Each student will write a one-page QALMRI for every Student Presentation class period when they are not presenting (total of 3). There are ~6 articles for each week, and you must choose ONE of the articles to write a QALMRI on. Students who are presenting are not required to write a QALMRI for that week. QALMRI's are worth 15% of the course grade. They are graded on a pass/fail basis. Passes are given to students who hand in their assignment on time. QALMRIs are due before class (9:55 am) on the due date. Fails are given to students who do not hand in their assignment on time. Fails may also be given to students for incomplete or obviously unsatisfactory QALMRIs.

DUE DATES: QALMRIQs are always due before class starts on presentation days.

Late QALMRIQs will not be accepted, and are grounds for an automatic fail for that QALMRI. The articles are posted in advance, so there is no excuse for handing in late assignments.

Purpose of the QALMRI

Writing weekly QALMRIs will help you comprehend the empirical papers that you read on a weekly basis. Empirical papers contain a lot of information and it requires practice to extract the central important questions that are being asked, and the main findings that are being reported.

QALMRI is an acronym. It stands for the following components of empirical papers:

What are the broad and specific **questions**?, what were the **alternative** hypotheses, what was the **logic** of the design, what was the **method**, what were the **results**, what **inferences** about the specific and broad question can be made from the results, what's the next question?

QALMRI is a guide to focus your reading so that you can identify these aspects of the articles you read. If you can clearly identify all of these aspects of a journal article, then you are on your way to comprehending the research you read about. The best way to ensure your comprehension is complete is write it out. This is why you will write a weekly QALMRI summary on the papers.

Assignment

Each week you will write a one-page QALMRI for any one of the research papers being presented that week. The papers for each class presentation are listed on the class schedule page. You can pick from among any of these papers. If a paper presented more than one experiment, you may do the QALMRI for one particular experiment.

Writing a QALMRI for any research paper is simply writing short answers to each of these questions using clear and concise language. It is a condensed, short-form, version of the research. You should think of this as an efficient way to summarize the paper. If someone hadn't read the paper, they should be able to get the gist of the paper from your QALMRI.

***For a more in-depth description and explanation of how to approach a QALMRI, see the "QALMRI-long-instructions.pdf" posted on the website.**

To be even more specific, your task is to answer these questions for the paper that you read:

Question: What was the broad question? What was the specific question?

Alternative hypotheses: What were the hypotheses?

Logic: If hypothesis #1 was true, what was the predicted outcome? What was the predicted outcome if hypothesis #2 was true?

Method: What was the experimental design?

Results: What was the pattern of data? What was the main finding?

Inferences: What can be concluded about the hypotheses based on the data? What can be concluded about the specific and broad question?

How long is a QALMRI? Long enough to answer each question with clear and brief sentences. Should be about one-page (single-spaced).