

**RESEARCH PAPER
REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES**

DUE DATES:

Thesis Statement: Oct. 4/5, 2007.

First Draft: October 18/19, 2007
Paper ready for peer editing and online editing

Final Draft: November 8/9, 2007
All corrections and revisions completed, ready
For teacher's score.

All notes: Due with Final Draft.

PAPER FORMAT:

Typed – double spaced 1500 – 2000 words (3-5 pages)

MLA format, embedded citations.

Staple once in top left corner; no folders, covers, etc.

Works cited page with 5 – 10 (minimum of 5) research sources

Third person narration (do not use I, we, us, you, yours)

Formal language (no contractions, text messaging language, etc.)

Title page (name, date, title – illustration optional)

Research notes due in separate folder or manila envelope on final due date.

PURPOSE OF PAPER:

To investigate/research a topic and to analyze and draw conclusions about the significance of the material.

STEPS:

Select a topic related to your Senior Project.

Consider all positions and focuses.

Ask questions about your topic.

Find answers to your questions

Prepare a thesis statement/paragraph in which you state the purpose of your paper

Take notes – highlight information – compile your works cited page

Write a rough draft.

Write the paper in third person in a way that proves the points you want to make.

Support your findings with facts, examples, quotations, charts, graphs, etc.

Make sure your paper has an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.

Write and edit as many drafts as necessary.

Print a copy for peer editing by October 19, 2007. This copy must also be turned in to turnitin.com!

Proofread it before subjecting it to classmates.

Make revisions and corrections as discovered in peer group

Create Title page for final copy.

Proofread aloud one more time before handing it in.

The research paper is not a how-to or a history paper.

It may be comparison/contrast.

This paper is the academic extension of your project – it must be related.

If there is no works cited page, it is not a research paper and it FAILS!

Some MLA pointers: first of all, you can use easybib, but remember, if you don't give easybib enough information, it can't make a correct entry for you. Also, remember to make your paper all one font.

You can check out an MLA style book from the library. You can also go online for MLA help. There are scores of websites to help you, such as <http://owlEnglish.purdue>

When you use information you find in books or online, include the source in the text of your document; otherwise, it is plagiarism. Follow MCA guidelines for parenthetical citations. You must document sources, in the text of your paper and the works cited page you can use someone else's words only if you say whose words they are.