Part III: General Components of a Paper

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- Referencing Systems
- Components of a Paper:
  - Title page
  - Abstract
  - Introduction
  - Purpose Statement
  - Literature Review
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Discussion
  - Conclusion
  - References
  - Appendices
Referencing Systems

- **Author-Date**
  - E.g., Harvard
  - E.g., American Psychological Association (APA)

- **Author-Title**
  - E.g., Modern Language Association (MLA)

- **Note System**
  - E.g., Vancouver
  - E.g., Chicago, or Turabian
Author-Date System

In-text citations accompanied by full reference at the end of paper

Example: According to Smith (2007), smoking has been shown to increase the likelihood of lung cancer.

Monash University Resources
• Citing and Referencing

APA Resources
• APA Style Guidelines
• Purdue OWL Resource for APA
Author-Title System

- **In-text:**
  - Author name
  - Page number(s)
  - Example: Smith suggests that smoking is linked to lung cancer (156-57).

- **Reference list:**
  - Author
  - Title
  - Publisher information
  - Year of publication

MLA Resources

- [Cornell University Library MLA Resource](#)
- [Washington State University MLA Resource](#)
Note System

- In-text: superscripted number at the end of the sentence
  - Example: Smoking has been linked to lung cancer.\(^1\)

- Reference list: superscripted number corresponding to the one used in text, followed by reference information which may vary from style to style.

Note System Resources

**Vancouver Style Guidelines**
(Scroll down “Requirements for the Submission of Manuscripts”)

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\(^1\)
Components of a Paper

- Title page
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Purpose statement or research question(s)
- Literature Review
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- References
- Appendices
Title Page (Vancouver Style)

Criteria and Format
- Double space all text
- All pages of the paper should be numbered using numerals only in the upper right hand including the title page
- Contains centered title of paper, name of author and his/her credentials, name of institution, and name of faculty advisor

Sample Title Page

Title of Paper:
Subtitle of Paper (if appropriate)
Your name, Your credentials (e.g., M.D., M.S., B.S., etc.)
Master of Public Health Program
Medical College of Wisconsin
Name of Faculty Advisor
Project Timeline
Title Page (Harvard Style)

Criteria and Format
- Double space all text
- All pages of the paper should be numbered using numerals only in the upper right hand including the title page
- Contains centered title of paper, name of author and his/her credentials, name of institution, and name of faculty advisor

Sample Title Page

TITLE: SUBTITLE OF PAPER (if necessary)

by Your Name

Presented to Name of Your Faculty Advisor
Name of Course

Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Due Date (e.g., May 19, 2011)
Writing an Abstract

- Should be written after you write your paper, and follow the same chronological order as your paper

- Brief synopsis of:
  - Background information (may include problem statement, research questions, and project purpose/objective).
  - Statement methods/approaches used
  - Results/findings
  - Conclusion(s)

- Sample abstract

*Ensure that your abstract falls within the required text length requirement*
Writing an Introduction

- Clearly states the topic, its importance, and why you are writing this particular paper
- Presents your thesis statement, intended audience, and definitions of important terms
- Describes how the rest of your paper is organized
- **Sample introduction**
Writing a Purpose Statement

• Specific statement of purpose, what your paper will do, and the research questions the paper will answer.

Example of a weak purpose statement:
This paper will discuss disparities in dental care.

Example of a stronger purpose statement:
The purpose of this paper is to examine the demographics of dental service providers and their relationship to the rural and underserved populations on a state and national level.
Constructing a Focus Statement

- Identify the topic and main idea of the paper
- Clearly state your conclusion
- A solid focus statement meets the following criteria:
  - Answers the research or project question
  - Is specific
  - Provides your stance on the subject you’re writing about
Example of Weak Focus Statement
Healthy People 2010 is a good initiative.

Example of Stronger Focus Statement
Healthy People 2010 is an effective initiative, which targets both individuals and populations. Since the initiative began, individuals and overall populations have reported decreases in body mass indices. (Not based on factual data).
Writing a Literature Review

Appropriate Resources

- Encyclopedias
- Journal articles
- Books
- Conference papers
- Government documents
- Newsletters
- Newspaper articles
- Technical and research reports
- Doctoral dissertations
- Master’s theses
- Media and symposium proceedings
- Media sources (e.g., audio recordings, television programs)
- Personal communications
Writing a Literature Review (continued)

• Primary sources
• Easily locatable by others
• Relevant to your paper
Writing a Literature Review (continued)

Should…

• Present research-based evidence to support your paper
• Detail studies which have been conducted to arrive at concluding evidence
• Identify persisting holes in current research/literature
• Present all sides of the topic
• Use wide range of complementary resources
Writing a Literature Review (continued)

Literature Review Table Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Study Details</th>
<th>Study Findings</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resource 1</td>
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<td>Resource 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resource 3</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More About Literature Reviews

Additional Resources

• UW-Madison Resource
• Deakin University Resource
• University of Toronto-Mississauga Resource
• Sample literature review
Methods

• Research design (e.g., type, duration, and setting of study)
• Research study equipment/materials
• Research participants or sample (i.e., number of participants, how and why participants were chosen, demographic data pertinent to your study)
• Procedures for how data was collected and analyzed, and the rationale for those procedures
• Main outcome measures
• Sample methods

(Adopted from Journal of the American Medical Association guidelines for submitting manuscripts)
Results

- Objective statement of results
- Quantified main outcomes of your study
- Risk measures
- Avoid subjective speculations and interpretations

(Adopted from Journal of the American Medical Association guidelines for submitting manuscripts)

- Sample results
Discussion

- Analysis of all results
- Interpretation of results in light of the existing literature
- How your research may add to or complement existing literature
- Sample discussion
Conclusion

• Whether or not research questions or aims were answered or fulfilled
• Conclusions directly supported by or related to the results of your study
• Implications of findings
• Recommendation for future research

(Adopted from Journal of the American Medical Association guidelines for submitting manuscripts)

• Sample conclusion
References

1. Use 1 referencing system and stick with that throughout the entire paper
2. Ensure that all reference resources are present in your reference list
3. Ensure that references are in the proper order (i.e., numerical or alphabetical)
Putting it All Together

✓ Assignment guidelines
✓ Title page
✓ Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and format
✓ All References properly cited
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