

HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT

DIRECTIONS FOR WRITING THE PAPER

(ignoring these directions may result in earning almost none of the 200 pts. that the paper is worth for the research grade)

Basic Requirements

Double space the entire paper (with no extra space between paragraphs); 1” top, bottom, and side margins; Times New Roman 12 font; 3-5 typed pages for the paper (the title page does not count; the 3rd page must be a full page—have at least a sentence or two on a 4th page to ensure that you meet the page requirement);—OR—5-7 written pages if you cannot type it.

Title Page (on a separate sheet of paper)

Center your topic and your name on separate lines in the middle of the page. Space down 15 lines then center (on three separate lines) Health followed by your hour (Health 4), Mr. Ryan, and the date. No headers for this project—do not include any of this information on the individual pages of your paper.

Body Paragraphs

YOUR PAPER MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE DIRECT QUOTE OR STATISTIC (FOLLOWED BY A CORRECTLY-FORMATTED IN-TEXT CITATION IDENTIFYING THE SOURCE) FROM EACH ONE OF YOUR FIVE SOURCES. One of those direct quotes must be the one described on the back under paragraph #1. All short direct quotes (four lines or less) must be enclosed in quotation marks (if a quote is more than four lines, do not enclose in quotation marks and do indent each line of that long quote ½” from the left margin). If you need to add a word or words to a quote, enclose those additional words in brackets (e.g., [required]). If you choose to leave out words in a quote, use an ellipsis (. . .) to indicate what you have done (include spaces before and after the periods in an ellipsis). If you choose to include more than the required direct quotes or statistics, every one of them must be entered in this same way.

In research papers written for other classes, you will need to use in-text citations for more than just direct quotes and statistics—in this paper, one of the objectives is to make sure you understand what is meant by a direct quote or a statistic, so you’re using them for only those quotes and statistics. There should not be an in-text citation for every piece of information you include in this paper. **Unless you choose to include more than the required number of direct quotes or statistics, you should have just five in-text citations** (one from each source) in this paper for this project.

The majority of your paper should be **written in your own words blending together information found in the five sources** on your Works Cited page—it should not consist of one quote after another nor should it summarize one article after another. When you do include a direct quote, be careful to do it correctly. As explained in the 8th ed. of the *MLA Handbook*—“The accuracy of quotations is crucial. They must reproduce the original sources exactly. Unless indicated in square brackets [or with ellipses], changes must not be made in the spelling, capitalization, or interior punctuation of the source.”

Order and description of REQUIRED paragraphs (FOLLOW THIS FORMAT!!!!):

Paragraph #1 (introduction)—the **first sentence** of this paragraph must be a **direct quote from your print reference book article** (preferably a definition or description—you will usually find one near the beginning of the article—often the first sentence). That direct quote must be enclosed in quotation marks (or indented ½” from the left if more than four lines), copied **word for word** from the article (if you need to add or want to leave out words, use brackets or an ellipsis as explained on the front of this sheet), and followed by an in-text citation using the author’s last name and the exact page number. **After the quote**, complete this paragraph by answering the following questions: **Why did you choose this topic? How much did you know about the topic before you began your research?**

Paragraph #2—briefly summarize the **main** causes of this disease, disorder, or condition. **Also include anything that might increase one’s chances of getting** this disease, disorder, or condition (age, gender, ethnicity, etc.—may be discussed under “risk factors”).

Paragraph #3-- briefly summarize the **main symptoms** of this disease, disorder, or condition. After symptoms (in that same paragraph), describe **how it is diagnosed**.

Paragraph #4--summarize the **treatment** of and **ways to prevent** this disease, disorder, or condition.

Paragraph #5—discuss your choice of any one of the following: History, outbreaks, an example from one of your articles of someone living with this disease, promising research, or any other aspect of the disease that doesn’t belong in any of the previous paragraphs but that you found particularly interesting.

Paragraph #6—answer the following questions as they would apply to **you and this disease, disorder, or condition**: If you had it, in what way(s) would your life be different? What would be most difficult for you? Would you need to do anything differently in order to cope with having it? Are you doing anything now that increases your risk of getting it? What, if anything, can you do differently to help prevent it? (If you actually do have this disease, disorder, or condition, answer the questions accordingly—i.e., what is most difficult for you, did you have to change your lifestyle in order to cope, etc.)

Paragraph #7 (conclusion)—briefly **describe how much you feel you learned about the topic** in comparison to what you knew before beginning your research. Include in this paragraph the single **most interesting fact** that you learned. **End your conclusion with a final comment or two** about your topic (what surprised you, what you were wrong about, if you think enough medical research has been done in this area or more time/money should be spent, etc.).

“I” IS APPROPRIATE TO USE IN PARAGRAPHS #1, #6, AND #7 ONLY.
DO NOT USE “I” IN ANY OTHER PARAGRAPH.

WHAT MUST BE IN THE FOLDER WHEN YOU TURN IN YOUR PROJECT?

- 1) **Title page and paper** (exactly as described above)
- 2) **Printed copy of the Works Cited page from *NoodleTools***
- 3) **Printed copies of your five articles** (with highlighting, circling, etc. as explained)
- 4) **Blank grade form.**