Research Paper

**Goal:** To write a well written formal research paper about an approved topic.

**Research Steps, Due Dates, and Point Values:**

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| Assignment | Due Date | Point Value |
| Proposal | 1/14/19 | 10 points |
| Thesis | 1/25/19 | 10 points |
| Research / Information #1 | 2/19/19 | 25 points |
| Research / Information #2 | 3/7/19 | 25 points |
| Outline | 3/21/19 | 30 points |
| Rough Draft #1 | 4/12/19 | 50 points |
| Rough Draft (Complete) | 5/1/19 | 50 points |
| Final Paper | 5/15/19 | 100 points |

**Assignment Breakdown**

**Length:** CP students: Five pages Honors: Seven Pages

**Proposal:** This is simply your topic. Remember, it shouldn’t be too broad. Look at what you have written and attempt to break it down even further.

Example: You want to write about the Civil War. The war encompasses thousands upon thousands of subjects. Come up with three aspects of the war you want to research. From this list, think about which will interest you the most. Choose that topic.

**Thesis:** Your thesis statement is nothing more than a claim. It needs to answer a question about the topic you will research. Remember, your thesis could change as you complete research. Your task is to write a working thesis.

Example: Abraham Lincoln was a political genius because of the way he exploited the Emancipation Proclamation. (Working Thesis)

**Notes Check #1:** You should have three - four pages of notes. The notes should be from a variety of sources. Along with the notes, you are to document the source. You should have at least three sources.

**Notes Check #2:** You should have five - seven pages of notes. The notes should be from a variety of sources. Along with the notes, you are to document the source. You should have at least five sources.

**Outline:** An outline is a plan of how you will present your information. This is a very important step, one to not take lightly. An outline will give you a sense of structure and help you as you write your paper. There is no right way to organize a history paper, but you need an outline. A piece of advice, think of how you want to present your information and build your outline. Refer to the outline template on my website.

**Rough Draft #1:** Must be at least three pages with citations. You should take the time to proof and edit the paper. Must include proper formatting and at least three sources.

**Rough Draft:** Must be your preliminary “final draft” with all citations and pages. Take time to proof and edit because this will make the final draft so much easier to write. The more time and effort you put in your rough draft equals less time on your final.

**Final Paper:** Turn in a typed hard copy. I will not allow you to go to the library, office, teacher, etc. to print. Printing takes place at home, public library, office store, post office. There are many places you can print your paper. All requirements are to be included in this paper. Yes, I must remind you of this!!! The paper should include five scholarly sources, proper formatting and completing edited. DO not forget citations and works cited page. This page is NOT included in your paper length.

**NOTES:**

You should have at least five sources for the paper. Two must be journal articles that can be found on university websites and Google Scholar. You can visit places such as the public libraries and Elon University library to consult research material. Do not use Wikipedia. You may consult Wikipedia for ideas but not information for your paper.

Citing Work: Your paper will be written in APA format.

Plagiarism: Plain and simple…. if you copy and paste any part of your paper it will be an automatic zero. Once plagiarism is detected, I will stop reading and assign a 0/100 for the final draft. Do not paraphrase without giving credit to the author. Do not use quotes without proper citation. When in doubt, cite the information. Do not use a quote that takes up half a page.

I have plenty of resources on my website for you to consult in terms of how to write a paper. It is not hard but hard work. If you wait until the last minute you will not succeed. I will list all after school workdays on my calendar in class. You will have at least three in class days to work on the paper. Use these days to ask questions and get help from me. I am here to help you!!!

Due dates: You are responsible for turning in work. There are no extensions. Please adhere to the dates.