

DOCUMENTED PROJECT WRITING #4

SYNOPSIS OF WRITING #4.0.

As noted on the assignment sheet for Writing #3.0, your fourth project of the term is your documented study: a paper that centers on a question worthy of academic research. The paper will be at least six pages (double spaced) long, not counting the abstract (see "Ancillaries" below) or your works cited page.

ANCILLARIES.

Besides the text itself, I would like from you an *abstract*, which should be no longer than 150 words. You will produce a version of the abstract in lab on Tuesday, April 7, and then you will also attach a revised version of it to the front of the final copy of the paper itself. Similarly, you will write an *Annotated Bibliography* of at least five entries; (Thursday, April 2).

Other things will also be due along the way the rest of the semester: notes for me to check, daily logs, revisions, and an oral presentation of your paper to the class. Each of these is part of the entire assignment; without them, your final grade for Writing #4.0 will suffer penalties.

FORMAT.

The paper should be word-processed, double-spaced in Times New Roman 12 point font and may include headings. Any graphics you use should follow the guidelines we discuss in class. For any other questions about format, refer to your documentation guide as well as the MLA handbook which can be accessed in the Library or the University Writing Center.

DOCUMENTATION.

Choice of documentation system is up to you. If you choose to work in anything other than MLA, such as APA or Chicago style, be aware that you will have to learn to work with those styles on your own. There is not enough time in the semester for me to teach you every possible style of documentation. Therefore, branching out to use the system that best fits your paper will require you to work gain a working knowledge of that system.

COPIES OF QUOTED AND PARAPHRASED PAGES.

As on Writing #2.0, when you turn in the final copy of your paper, please include copies (printed or Xerox) that contain all passages that you quote or paraphrase. To help me find them easily, please mark the passages by circling or highlighting them. If you do not turn in copies of your source material with the paper, you **WILL NOT PASS** the paper. These sources are considered a part of the assignment and must be handed in at the time the paper is turned in or the assignment is considered incomplete.

ORAL PRESENTATION.

You will be assigned a time slot to present the results of your study to the rest of the class. Your presentation should be no longer than ten minutes (including question/answer time). It should summarize the essential points of the paper in such a way that the rest of us can understand what you have been working on.

DUE DATE: Tuesday, April 21

EVALUATION CRITERIA.

1. Has the paper met all of the minimum requirements of the assignment as explained on the assignment sheet and in class discussion?
2. Has the paper made a worthwhile contribution to the knowledge of the other members of the class?
2. Has the investigation been thorough enough to be convincing?
3. Is the paper unified around a research question?
4. Is the paper "original" in that it takes an approach to the research question that has not already been rehashed again and again in print?
5. Does the paper include research methods suitable to the question it asks?
6. Is the paper substantiated well with documented evidence?
7. Is the documentation (including quoted and paraphrased material) handled smoothly and accurately?
8. Is the paper organized well overall? At paragraph to paragraph levels?
Within paragraphs? From sentence to sentence?
9. Is the style clear and free of excess baggage?
10. Is the paper free of problems in spelling, grammar, usage, and punctuation?

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, March 24	Prospectus Due
Thursday, April 2	Annotated Bibliography Due
Thursday, April 16	Complete Draft Due
Tuesday, April 21	Paper #4 Due