

Research Project & Paper (100 points possible). Students will be assigned into groups and assigned topics in which they will become the “expert”. They will research the topic; they will synthesize the information; and present to their findings to the class (5-10 minute presentation).

1. ***A written summary of 6-8 pages will be handed in during class on the date indicated on the syllabus or as directed by your professor.*** The chosen topic will cover all of the major terms, concepts, and important aspects of the topic). ***The paper is worth 100 points and includes the presentation- (failing to make an adequate and complete presentation of the material will result in 25 points being taken off of the paper and a reduced participation grade).***
2. ***Citations and references are to follow APA format, no exceptions!*** If you need assistance, the Library and the Writing Center staff are experts! Any paper that fails to include appropriate citations and/or references or fails to follow APA format will receive a ***ZERO*** with no exception!
3. ***All papers are to be turned in ready to go and as complete.*** No papers will be reviewed by the professor and no one will be allowed to rewrite a paper. The professor will gladly briefly review your paper but will not read the entire paper.
4. Presentations will occur as instructed in the syllabus. ***All group members must participate in the presentation to receive credit for the paper.***
5. ***No late work will be accepted.*** Any group member who does not actively participate and contribute to the completion of the project will receive fewer points up to receiving a zero for this assignment. ***No papers will be accepted by email, no exceptions!***
6. The paper will be graded per the ***Paper Grading Criteria*** outline provided.
7. The presentation will be graded on the ***following criteria:***
 - a. All group members actively participate in the preparation and presentation of the paper/project. Any member who does not participate fully may receive less points (see above).
 - b. Presentation includes all major areas and issues related to the specific area assignment and is knowledgeable and insightful.
 - c. The paper adequately covers all of the major concepts and terms of the chosen topic. Synthesis and presentation of perspectives is knowledgeable and insightful.
 - d. Be creative in your presentation! Use of PowerPoint is recommended.

Paper Grading Criteria- General Psychology Topic Paper

	Points Earned	
I. MAIN PAPER BODY & CONTENT (80%)		
Identified & addressed the key elements in a substantive way. (40 points possible) 1. Clearly identified the topic, demonstrating an understanding of the material (e.g., paraphrased, used your own words) (10 points) . 2. Clearly identified and explained in depth the major aspects and concepts of the topic. This includes identifying the major terms and concepts for the topic (10 points) . 3. The information is presented and organized in a logical manner (10 points) . 4. Major points are clearly stated and are supported by specific facts and data (10 points) .		
The content is comprehensive (at least 5 additional sources/articles reviewed (the textbook may be used as 1 source; <i>websites do not count!</i>). (10 points)		
The paper follows APA format for all citations and references (20 points possible) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citations follow APA format (10 points) • References follow APA format (10 points) 		
The introduction provides sufficient background on the topic and previews the major points. (5 points possible)		
The conclusion is logical, flows from the body of the paper, and reviews the major points. (5 points possible)		
TOTAL: 80 points possible		
READABILITY & STYLE (5%); 1 point possible per item		
Paragraph transitions are present and logical and maintain the flow throughout the paper.		
The tone is appropriate to the content and assignment.		
Sentences are complete, clear, and concise.		
Sentences are well constructed, with consistently strong, varied sentences.		
Sentence transitions are present and maintain flow of thought.		
TOTAL: 5 points possible		
MECHANICS 10%; 3 points per item		
The paper, including the title page, reference page, tables, and appendices, follow APA guidelines for format.		
Citations of original works within the body of the paper follow APA guidelines.		
The paper utilizes clear headings, font styles, and white space.		
Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.		
Spelling is correct.		
TOTAL: 15 points possible		
TOTAL FOR PAPER (100 points possible)		