

9th Grade Research Project ("Semester Project")



Purpose: To be able to explore, synthesize, and summarize information found on a specific topic, as well as to synthesize and apply feedback from the instructor. (You are not expected to write perfectly, but you are expected to use and learn from the feedback given.)

Process: Students will choose a topic related to current events and will identify and summarize information from a minimum of 5 reputable sources such as news websites, news magazines, newspapers, etc. into a paper 3 to 5 pages long. Students may not use Wikipedia, alt-news websites, or other sources of a questionable nature. **All assignments, except for the initial choice and signature form, are submitted in Edgenuity in Word format.** If you do not have Word available to you at home you must make arrangements to gain access to it.

Formatting: All work will be submitted in Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced. **Only** double spaced. You will need to check your formatting to make sure there is no extra space between paragraphs. All citations and works referenced will be in MLA style (web address to the OWL at Purdue included in this hand out). Rough draft and final paper will contain a title page that is formatted as follows:

Title
Student name
Grade
Date

Second and final draft will also contain properly formatted headers and page numbers (MLA style). Information how to do this will be found in the link provided to the OWL at Purdue. The information is there, but you have to find it. There are other good resources for MLA format out there. *You* are responsible for finding this information. This is part of the project. I will still help you as needed, but you have to do the ground work first.

Assignment components:

- 1. Written Proposal of Topic ("Semester Project Activity #1"):** What do you want to write about? Why do you want to write about it? This needs to be signed by both you and a parent/guardian. **This is due in "Mythology" for ELA 9 S1, or "Caring" for S2**
- 2. Outline and list of sources ("Semester Project Activity #2"):** Create a rough outline for your paper, with a list of articles from reputable sources (including web addresses) you would use to write your paper. Example: "Bomb Cyclone Slams East Coast: What

You Need to Know” <http://www.cnn.com/2018/01/03/us/winter-weather-latest/index.html> This is due in “The Epic Hero’s Quest” for ELA 9 S1 or “Tragedy and Drama” for S2.

- 3. Rough draft (“Semester Project Activity #3”):** Give it a whirl, see what you can come up with. Summarize your sources and piece them together in a way that makes sense to you. Mr. Robinson will read your paper, and give you feedback. If you have any questions, sign up on the ELA clipboard and visit with him. **This is due in “Nature and the Environment” for ELA 9 S1 or “Fighting for Equality” in S2.**
- 4. Final draft (“Semester Project Activity #4”):** Your paper will be edited using initial feedback and submitted. **This is due in “Making a Difference” for ELA 9 S1 or “Unity and Division” for S2.**

Scoring: Each section is given a score from 0-100, and will count for 2.5% of your total grade for the semester. You **do not** want to blow this off.

MLA Style guide from the OWL at Purdue:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

USE THIS TOOL! It will be your best friend!

One last note: **DO NOT** wait until you reach these in Edgenuity. BE PROACTIVE! Do them beforehand so you only have to upload your documents. ***DO NOT WAIT***

9th-12th Research Project
Written Proposal of Topic

Name:

The topic I want to write about is:

I want to write about this topic because:

I acknowledge that this assignment is worth 10% of my total grade for this semester.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date