

Quality Standards



Quality standards for research papers vary from discipline to discipline and from class to class. For example, some disciplines require that your paper use the format developed by the Modern Language Association. Others require the American Psychological Association format. In some classes you may only be required to write a brief three to five page paper. In others, the requirement could be up to 20 pages or more.

Although quality standards vary, there are some basic requirements for a research paper that are common to most disciplines. These standards are reflected in the Core Skills Writing Rubric developed by the faculty at Schoolcraft College.

To understand the quality standards expected in a course, be sure to review your syllabus. However, you need to remember that the syllabus is only a starting point. Your professor will likely supplement material from the syllabus with handouts, class lectures, and e-mail.

Suggestion for Success

This workbook was set up to be placed in a three ring binder. When you get a handout or e-mail from your professor concerning your research paper, you can insert it into your binder. You can also put your class notes in the Quality Standards section of your binder.

On-Line Resources

Basic MLA Format

<http://writing.stevenberg.info/tutorials/mla>

Core Skills Writing Rubric

<http://www.stevenberg.info/teaching/core/>



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