**SENIOR ENGLISH**

# RESEARCH PAPER GUIDELINES

1. Subject/Topic
   1. Must be cleared with the teacher in order to receive credit.
   2. Must be on an English/British (non-American) theme.
2. Length
   1. Paper should be 4-6 pages. /Minimum: you must have at least one sentence on the fourth page.
   2. You must use appropriate margins, font style and size (see back of handout).
3. Sources of Research/Information
   1. No encyclopedias (including Wikipedia) may be used as a source for your paper.
   2. One source must be library based (not free internet) such as a book, magazine, pamphlet, newspaper, etc. (You can access the library’s search engine from the Richwoods home page.)
   3. Must have at least **five** sources listed in your Works Cited page.
   4. Must cite at least **three** of your sources in your paper.
4. Outline
   1. The preliminary outline is the basic organizational strategy showing a logical arrangement of ideas.
   2. Must include a one sentence thesis statement.
   3. Must use correct outline form (on future handouts).
   4. Organization of paper must match outline.
5. Works Cited page
   1. The works cited page is an alphabetical arrangement of bibliographies (your sources of information).
   2. Should use *easybib.com* to assure it is in correct bibliography (MLA) format.
6. Final Paper
   1. Must include your revised **outline** and **Works Cited** page. (Will not be graded without these!)
   2. Must include parenthetical citations using MLA format. (Will not be graded without these!)
   3. MUST HAVE BEEN EDITED! You are responsible for checking for spelling and grammar errors. Run the spell/grammar check on your computer and have others read your paper for errors. I WILL NOT MAKE THESE CORRECTIONS FOR YOU. Your grade will be significantly reduced if you have a number of these types of errors.
   4. The final copy does **not** require a title page.

**EVALUATION**

**Papers will NOT be accepted if…**

* Any part of the paper is plagiarized.
* The paper is fewer than four pages.
* Internal documentation is incomplete (three different sources must be used & cited within the paper.)
* All parts of the final paper are not turned in (final copy, outline & works cited page)
* I did not observe you working on your paper during class time. A paper that is completely done at home is probably plagiarized.

## TYPING GUIDELINES

* Double-spaced
* Font: Times New Roman
* Type size: 12
* Margins: Top & Bottom = 1; Left & Right= 1 (These are “normal” margin in Microsoft Word.)
* Page numbers set up as a header in the right hand top corner of each page.

# COURSE REQUIREMENTS & DEADLINES

* Thesis statement Due\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Preliminary outline Due\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Final paper including revised outline, final draft & works cited page

Due\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the guidelines and requirements pertaining to the Senior English research paper, and I understand what is required of me. I understand that if I don’t meet all of the research requirements I fail the second semester of senior English and will not graduate.

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(Name) (Date)