

Research Paper Format Guidelines

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Requirements

Your written paper will be 12-15 pages, plus your works cited (totaling roughly 15-18 pages, total).

12-point font, 1" margins, double-spaced, Microsoft Word Document (no pages or alternative text format, please).

Due 4/20/15, 10 a.m., uploaded to UNM Learn.

In your works cited, you must have at least 10 sources listed, and no more than two sources can come from the same book or anthology. For your works cited, you will use the “author-date” version of the **Chicago Manual of Style** to guide your formatting (http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html).

Graduate Resource Center: In order to receive a grade, you must meet at least once—either virtually or in-person—with a writing tutor at the GRC and then have them email me the verification of that appointment to: kmj23@unm.edu.

Turnaround is ca. 3 business days, so be sure to submit your paper at least **one week prior** to The GRC offers one-on-one writing consultations, online writing feedback (grOWL), writing groups and writing “boot camps.” Call this number to schedule an appointment: 505-277-1407. When submitting work to the GRC, please include both your paper AND this prompt, so they know exactly how best to help you.

Here are the formal guidelines for a graduate student level research paper. Each section should have its own heading, and these guidelines must be adhered to in order to receive a grade.

Remember, each section of the paper should be linked directly back to the main argument or thesis of the paper. There should be a “through line” or connecting thread from the beginning of the paper to the end.

Format Guidelines

1) Introduction: 3 pages, maximum.

What is the topic of your paper? What are you trying to argue, and what material will you use to support your argument? This is often the hardest part to write, and needs to be written clearly, concisely, and accurately. You may want to save writing this section for the last.

2) Literature Review: 2 pages, maximum.

What has already been written about this topic? Who are these scholars, and what are the major debates and issues discussed thus far? What disciplines are you drawing on in your study? Finally, how is your topic different than what's already been covered? You want to list authors, dates and pages using parenthetical citation style (i.e., Jacobsen-Bia 2014: 41), here and throughout your paper.¹

3) Body of Paper (choose a different title rather than “body” that pertains to your paper topic): 8 pages, maximum.

This is where you get into the “meat” of your paper. What material are you analyzing? What is your analysis and/or interpretation of this material? Be sure to keep this section tied back to the issues outlined in your introduction.

4) Conclusion: 2 pages, maximum

This is where you back up and summarize what you've already told us, in concise form, but perhaps from a different angle. What are the implications of your research? What other types of research might be carried out to answer these questions more deeply? Can you offer us any new angles or lenses in your conclusion for understanding the material you've presented to us?

¹ For a guideline on how to write an effective literature review, please consult the Introductions to the ethnographies covered in class thus far (look for the section with the most embedded citations) and practice mimicking the writing styles, used.