

Research Paper Assignment

Submission and Deadlines (see Canvas)

You will need to submit your topic, first draft and final paper to the assignment 'Research Paper Assignment'. Each sub-assignment will be penalized 10% for each day that your paper is late.

The research paper assignment is worth 20% of your final grade.

Scope of the Paper

Find an **archaeological topic** related to the use of **food, drink, or medicines** about which you would like to learn more, develop a research question related to that topic, and address that question in a well-written research paper. You have complete freedom in topic with the following exceptions:

- 1) the question and sources you draw on **must deal with archaeological (material) evidence** (although other evidence types, such as historical documents, can also serve as evidence)
- 2) you must find at least **five** academic articles, books, or book chapters beyond those assigned in this class (although you may also cite readings from class)
- 3) unless you may not draw on non-scholarly sources of evidence, including journalism, without advance permission from your instructor or teaching fellow

You will need to undertake original research to identify a suitable topic and appropriate peer-reviewed or scientific literature to write an effective paper. I recommend Google Scholar (<https://scholar.google.com>) or the ISI Web of Knowledge search engine (<http://www.webofknowledge.com>) search options (both accessible from campus or via library proxy or VPN). Justify your points by citing relevant points from the texts you choose or from sources assigned for this class. Avoid lengthy quotations or summaries of the texts: your goal is to integrate a various data types to address your question of interest. Please discuss your choice of topic with me well before the paper is due to make sure you are on the right track!

Format

The paper must be 6-8 complete pages of double-spaced text, with 1-inch margins and 12-point font. Papers shorter or longer than this will be penalized (don't make me read too much!).

Your paper should have a title that reflects the content of the paper. A title page is not necessary.

Include page numbers at the bottom of each page of text.

You need a separate "Works Cited" page that lists all referenced publications in a standard bibliographic format (see the food journal assignment for details). You may also wish to include figures with your paper; be sure to reference each figure and cite the original source in the caption (note: the "Works Cited" page and any figures do not

count towards your page limit and should be appended at the end of the paper). Check your paper for spelling, grammar, and other typographical errors before turning it in – remember this is a writing intensive course.

Proposal

Prior to writing the paper, you also need to complete a one-to-two-paragraph paper proposal (~100-200 words), which is due on Canvas. This should explain what **topic** you have chosen to explore, identify a **tentative research question**, and list at least **ONE** scholarly article or book that you think might be relevant.

(with full bibliographic information at the end of your paragraph – does not count towards word limit), and briefly describe the approach you will take to complete your research. An example proposal is in our shared folder. Note that your research question will provide you a **tentative thesis statement**. The purpose of this exercise is to have you begin thinking about your paper before it is due, and to give you an opportunity to discuss your ideas with your instructor prior to writing the paper. 20% (out of 100) of your final paper grade will be based on the timeliness and completeness of this proposal.

Grading and Revision

Proposal	20%
First Draft	30%
Final Revision	50%
Total:	100%

Papers will be graded on the quality of your analysis, and presentation of that analysis. Papers must be exclusively your own work, must not contain any copied information without credit to the original author, and must not be done in collaboration with another person. Writing resources at UCSD include the Writing Hub (<https://writinghub.ucsd.edu/>) and your instructor; you are encouraged to meet after class or for office hours before paper deadlines to discuss your ideas, outline, or drafts.

You are **required to revise these papers**. Your final grade on the paper will be a combination of your scores on the first and final drafts.