

Unit 1 assignment

This assignment has three parts total: Topics Inventory, Controlling Idea Statement, and Short Proposal. Submit all three parts in one document.

Part 1: Topics Inventory

For the Topics Inventory, you will construct a list of topics from which you may choose one to develop into a Research Paper for this course. This exercise is based on the models on p. 318 of *Strategies for Writing Successful Research Papers*, so you will want to refer back to this page for examples.

Purpose:

The purpose of this assignment is to help you formulate an inventory of topics that you are interested in so that you may choose one to research in Unit II and develop into a Research Proposal. Be sure to choose a topic that you are invested in, as you are more likely to be motivated and excited about a subject that interests you. You will want to choose a topic that is academically viable, for as Lester et al (2011) state, "You can't write a personal essay and call it a research paper, yet you can choose topics close to your life" (p. 318).

Description:

You will supply four topics in the following categories:

1. Academic subject
2. Social issue
3. Scientific subject
4. Cultural background

Within each of these categories, you will supply a topic developed in three ways:

1. Personal interest
2. The category (academic study, social issue, scientific subject, and cultural background)
3. Three possible academic topics

Example: Academic study

1. Personal interest: Cars
2. Academic subject: Eco-engineering

3. Possible academic topic:

- "The Fate of Hybrid Vehicles: The Cost Is Not Worth the Environmental Toll"
 - "Hydrogen Cars: Are They a Safe Alternative?"
 - "Electric Cars Are Not 'Saving' Environmental Resources, Only Saving Money at the Gas Pump"
- The Topics Inventory is worth 40 points of this assignment.

Part 2: Controlling Idea Statement

Understanding your controlling idea will aid you in your research endeavor in Unit II as you launch into researching materials to help you better develop your Research Paper.

Purpose:

The purpose of this exercise is to help you bridge between your Topics Inventory and your Short Proposal by helping you to formulate a controlling idea statement.

Description:

You will formulate a controlling idea statement through one of the following: a thesis, an enthymeme, or a hypothesis. For this assignment, you are required to only produce one Controlling Idea Statement. It should be a statement, not a question. Further, your final Research Paper will be an argumentative, research-based, academic-style Research Paper; therefore, your Controlling Idea Statement must propose an argument. In other words, your Controlling Idea Statement must be a contestable statement that invites argumentation—something that you must prove or support with research.

Process:

Refer back to your Topics Inventory and Chapter 14, Section 14f, of *Strategies for Writing Successful Research Papers*, "Developing a Thesis Statement, Enthymeme, or Hypothesis" (pp. 328-331).

Follow these steps, and draft a Controlling Idea Statement:

1. Choose one topic from the list of four that you created when you wrote your Topics Inventory. Consider these questions when choosing your topic: Which of these topics is most appealing to you? Which one seems as though it has the most possibility for ease of researching and for developing a research paper?

2. Choose one type of Controlling Idea Statement you would like to write:

- a thesis statement "advances a conclusion the writer will defend";
- an enthymeme "uses a *because* clause to make a claim the writer will defend";
- a hypothesis "is a theory that must be tested...to prove its validity" (Lester & Lester, 2010, p. 328).

3. Draft your statement; use the examples in Section 14f as examples to assist you.

4. Save a copy of this statement for yourself, and submit your Controlling Idea Statement with the Unit I Assignment.

The Controlling Idea Statement is worth 10 points of this assignment.

Part 3: Short Proposal

For the Short Proposal, you will write a research proposal developed from the Topic Inventory you constructed and the Controlling Idea Assignment (a thesis, an enthymeme, or hypothesis). Your Short Proposal must be between 150-200 words and written in one cohesive paragraph. All source material used in the Short Proposal must be cited correctly according to APA convention and style. If material is quoted, then quotation marks must be used, along with a parenthetical citation. If material is paraphrased, then a parenthetical citation giving attribution to the author must be used. A list of references must be included as well.

Purpose:

The purpose of this assignment is to help you prepare for the next stages of the Research Paper writing process that you will participate in for Unit II, which will give you the foundations of research methods. In Unit II, you will be writing a full-fledged Research Proposal as well, so you will want to seriously consider what you write for this Short Proposal as a precursor to that assignment.

Description:

This assignment is based on the models in Chapter 14, Section 14f, of *Strategies for Writing Successful Research Papers* (p. 331), so you will want to refer back to this page for an example. Your Short Proposal should include the following five elements:

1. The specific topic
2. The purpose of the paper: Your paper must be an argumentative paper, so you will want to cast your purpose statement towards this argumentative end.
3. The intended audience: If you are unsure about whom your audience might be, consult Chapter 1, Section 1d, of *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook with Exercises* (p. 7-8).
4. Your voice as a writer (informer, advocate, concerned citizen, etc.)
5. The preliminary thesis statement or opening hypothesis

The Short Proposal is worth 50 points of this assignment.

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Example For Unit 1 Assignment

Topics Inventory

1. Academic studies

Personal interest: The future of the book

Academic subject: Cultural Studies

Possible topics: "How Kindle Killed Borders Bookstore"
"Digital Publishing as the Future of the Book"
"How the e-Reader Replaced the Home Library as a Status Symbol"

2. Social issue

Personal interest: Vaccinations for children

Social issue: A parent should have the right to refuse vaccinations for his or her child

Possible topics: "Schools Should Not Require All Vaccinations"
"Vaccination Education Courses for New Parents"
"Greater Awareness through Education of the General Public about the Dangers of Vaccinations"

3. Scientific subject

Personal interest: Recycling and at-home environmental awareness

Scientific subject: City-wide ecological efforts

Possible topics: "How Your City Can Benefit from a Large-Scale Recycling Program"
"Teaching Your Children about Environmental Awareness through Home Recycling Makes for Lifetime Ecologists"
"Recycling Uses More Energy Than Making New Products: Is the Benefit Really Worth the Cost?"

4. Cultural background

Personal interest: German Immigrant Farmers

Cultural background: German-American

Possible topics: "Treatment of German-Americans During WWII"
"The Contributions of German-American Farmers in the Late-19th Century"
"The Role of German-Americans in the Civil Wars of the American Midwest"

Controlling Idea Statement

Enthymeme: Vaccinations for childhood illnesses should not be required by schools because it forces parents who send their children to public school to expose their children to potentially harmful vaccinations that may cause more detriments to the child's health than most parents realize.

Example

Short Proposal

The American public school system requires that all children who attend who are enrolled must have a series of vaccinations that are considered prudent not only for the individual child but also for the other children that the child will come into contact with throughout his or her grade school years. The purpose of this paper will be to examine the practice of requiring grade-school children to be vaccinated by arguing that parents should have the right to decide whether or not their children will be exposed to potentially harmful vaccinations. The primary audience for this research paper is parents, but a second primary audience would be those who control the enrollment regulations for public schools. A secondary audience would be concerned citizens and anyone who is involved with public schools or those who are concerned about parents' rights. For this paper, I will be adopting the voice of a concerned citizen who has been urged to write this paper because of an apprehension about this practice in our public grade schools. Vaccinations for childhood illnesses should not be required by schools because it forces parents who send their children to public school to expose their children to potentially harmful vaccinations that may cause more detriments to the child's health than most parents realize.

Unit 1 Assignment

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Topic Inventory

Academic subject

1. Personal interest: Various styles of learning
2. Academic subject: Learning Theories in modern times
3. Possible academic topic:

[The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts]

→ missing 2 topics like example

See teachers comments

Comment [LE2]: This topic is informative rather than argumentative. Your research topic is required to have two sides.

In addition, you are required to have three possible topics for each category as provided in the example.

Social issue

1. Personal interest: focus on helping kids
2. Social Issue: Sexual abuse
3. Possible social topic:

["Child Sexual Abuse: Increasing cases and possible prevention programs"]

"" →

Comment [LE3]: Too vague; be more specific.

Scientific subject

1. Personal interest: biotechnology
2. Scientific subject: Cloning
3. Possible Scientific topic:

["Human Cloning: Where exactly are we and will we ever succeed"]

"" →

Comment [LE4]: Needs more substance.

Cultural background

1. Personal interest: Ancient culture and religion
2. Cultural subject: Neolithic Religion

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3. Possible Cultural topic:

"Different Approaches in Neolithic Religion"

Comment [LE5]: Vague. Be more specific.

Controlling Idea Statement

The topic selected for this paper is 'The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts'.

The controlling idea of this topic is that learning in today's time is no more just a cognitive phenomenon and just the individual learning concepts don't suffice in explaining the way adult learning takes place in the current times.

Comment [LE6]: No contractions! Please do not use in formal writing.

Comment [LE7]: Stronger and more effective thesis statement needed.

Short Proposal

The topic on which this paper will be written on is 'The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts'. The learning process in the adults in modern days has changed and it is no more just about the cognitive process in today's time. There are many other factors like socio cultural context, connection of body and mind, role of spirituality, etc. The intended audience of the paper is the academician and people working on learning theories and processes in humans. The paper will give them an idea about various factors affecting learning in modern times. My voice in this paper will be that of an advocate. The preliminary thesis statement for this paper is "learning in today's time is no more just a cognitive phenomenon and just the individual learning concepts ^{do not} suffice in explaining the way adult learning takes place in the current times."

Comment [LE8]: Be sure to include evidence formatted in APA style to support your assertions. You must include references. This is imperative.

Your topic is informative and not argumentative. Therefore, please consider revising your grade or it will adversely impact your final course grade.

Research Proposal Assignment instructions

Purpose:

The purpose of the Research Proposal is to mold the preliminary ideas you have about your topic and to develop them in an academic manner. This development occurs as a direct result of your research on the subject. Therefore, this is your first formal articulation of your project. The Research Proposal is the next step towards writing assignments that will help you construct your Research Paper.

Description:

In this 500-600-word, essay-style Research Proposal, you will develop the project that you intend to write about for your final Research Paper for this course. If your Research Proposal is less than this word count, then it is likely you have not fully developed your proposal or adhered to the assignment appropriately, which can severely impact your grade for this assignment. Your Research Proposal will include the elements listed below.

Your Research Proposal should also include a list of references in APA style and should adhere to APA convention throughout for in-text citation and style. For a sample Research Proposal, see pp. 331-335 of *Strategies for Writing Successful Research Papers*. Short and long proposals both have different elements that make up the framework of your Research Paper. Pay close attention to the example provided to get a firm idea of how to write your Research Proposal.

Elements:

Your Research Proposal grade will be largely based on your inclusion of the elements listed below, as well as your development of the project. For assistance, you might want to refer to Chapter 1, Section 1a, of *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook with Exercises* (pp. 3-4). Your Research Proposal must contain the following elements:

1. Cover page and APA formatting:

You will include an APA-style cover page for your Research Proposal. See the example on page 16 of *The CSU APA Guide (6th edition)*. Your cover page should include the following: the title of your future Research Paper (this may be changed as your project develops), your name, the title of the course, your professor's name, and the date of submission (with the month, date, and year). The cover page should also include a running head, along with a sequential page number in the upper right-hand corner. The example provided in the CSU APA Guide is a simplified title page; as such, make sure you follow the instructions carefully.

2. Purpose:

Review the purpose statement on p. 333 of *Strategies for Writing Successful Research Papers*. You may also want to refer to Chapter 1, Section 1c of *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook with Exercises* (pp. 6-7). The following questions should be addressed in the first paragraph of your Research Proposal, which should be dedicated to establishing your purpose for doing this particular project.

- What is your rationale for this project?
- What do you hope to learn from the project, or what do you want to see happen as a result of it?
- Who is your audience for this project? Chapter 1, Section 1d, of *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook with Exercises* (pp. 7-8)
- What role will you play in this project: investigator or advocate?

3. Statement of qualification:

Address the following questions as they are applicable to your project.

- What is your investment in the topic?
- What personal experience do you bring to the topic?
- What special qualities do you bring to the project?
- How might your investment, experience, and special qualities make you particularly apt at developing this project?

4. Tentative argument:

Your final Research Paper for this course will be an argumentative, research-based, academic paper. While it is unlikely that you will have a concrete idea of what your entire argument will be at this point in the writing process, it is necessary for you to articulate your argument as you understand it to be right now. Address the following questions.

- What is the context surrounding your topic? In other words, is there some event that was a catalyst for bringing your topic into the public eye? (Optional)
- What is your explanation or definition of the topic?
- What is your analysis of the specific issue surrounding your topic?
- What is your tentative thesis statement or hypothesis?

5. References:

Include a references list as the last page of your Research Proposal. All entries are those that have been cited in the text. No others are to be included. No textbooks should be included on the references list.

THIS IS WHAT THE WRITER PROVIDED FOR ME.
I + SUPPOSE TO BE AN ARGUMENTATIVE PAPER.
APA STYLE

The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts

The topic selected for this paper is 'The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts'.

The controlling idea of this topic is that learning in today's time is no more just a cognitive phenomenon and just the individual learning concepts ~~don't~~ ^{do not} suffice in explaining the way adult learning takes place in the current times.

Short Proposal

The topic on which this paper will be written on is 'The theory of adult learning in 21st century: Moving beyond individual learning concepts'. The adult learning process has evolved a lot in the last couple of decades and it is no more just a cognitive phenomenon. It is much more complex process than the simple cognitive view of it. The rationale for doing this project is to highlight those different factors that affect the adult learning process in modern times.

It is expected that this project will give a good perspective on the various factors that are usually not considered important while looking at the adult learning phenomenon, yet have a strong role to play in the same. Some of these factors are socio cultural context, connection of body and mind, role of spirituality, engaging methods, prior connections etc.

The audience for this paper will be the academic professionals anyone else who is interested in understanding the principles and processes of learning in adults. The paper will give them an idea about various factors affecting learning in modern times. The role that I will play in this paper will be of an advocate that argues about the importance of these factors in the learning process.

Statement of qualification

I will invest and add certain amount of observation I have seen around me that contribute to the topic. I will also bring on the views of experts I have interacted with or learned about their views on the topic of various factors affecting the adult learning process. This will certainly bring in a lot of first hand observations and experience that will enrich the argument made in the paper and will add to the discussion. These investment and experiences will help enriching the paper further and bringing in real life examples in the support of the argument discussed in this paper.

The context of the topic is the fact that if we look around us, we will see how there is so many other factors than just individual concepts of learning affect this process. Sometimes these factors are internal and some time they are external. But nevertheless, they are not given as much important in understanding the adult learning process and thus, this paper will focus on that.

The theory of adult learning in 21st century puts a strong emphasis on the fact that learning in today's concept is a play of many factors. These factors are related to the learner and they also interact with each other and have a huge impact on the learning of the individual. This theory stresses how learning in today's time is no more just a cognitive phenomenon and the learning theories based on just individual learning concepts don't suffice in explaining the way adult learning takes place in the current times.

For example one theory named the transformative learning theory hints at the connection of body and mind playing a key role in adult learning. According to this theory "the brain structure actually changes during the learning process" (Taylor, 2006)

Another theory points out that the more participative the method of teaching the more interesting it becomes for adult learners. "*Adults learn best by participation in relevant experiences and utilization of practical information.*" (Karge, Phillips, Dodson, & Mc, 2011)

The tentative thesis statement for this paper is "*learning in today's time is no more just a cognitive phenomenon and just the individual learning concepts don't suffice in explaining the way adult learning takes place in the current times.*"

References

Karge, B., Phillips, K., Dodson, T., & Mc. (2011). Effective strategies for engaging adult learners. *Journal of College Teaching and Learning* , 53-56.

Taylor, E. W. (2006). *New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education*.