



The Lantern English Co.  
The Advanced Writer

## **The Exploratory Research Paper**

**Course Description:** Exploratory writing begins with a question. Research is then conducted to find potential answers that are shared with readers. This course guides the student through the process of writing an exploratory research paper of 1800-2200 words. Students learn how to develop a research question, choose and analyze a minimum of 10 sources, group sources by potential answer, and organize a successful exploratory paper. Students enrolled in this class should already be generally comfortable with writing a basic research paper, utilizing a variety of sources, and constructing a bibliography and a works cited list.

### **Class Outline:**

#### **Week One:** The Topic

- A. Research Topic Exercise
- B. Developing a Research Question
- C. Writing Assignment: How I Chose My Question

#### **Week Two:** Beginning Research

- A. Research the Question
- B. Choose Sources
- C. Writing Assignment: Submit Annotated Bibliography

#### **Week Three:** More Research

- A. Read and Analyze Sources
- B. Take Notes
- C. Writing Assignment: Group Sources

#### **Week Four:** Organizing the Paper

- A. Understanding The Exploratory Paper
- B. Writing Assignment: The Outline

C. Writing Assignment: The Introduction

**Week Five:** Writing Assignment: Submit First Draft

**Week Six:** Writing Assignment: Submit Complete Draft with Citations

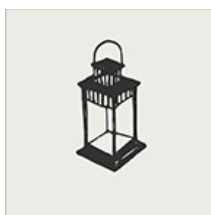
**Week Seven:** Revisions

A. Peer Review

B. Revise First Draft

C. Submit Final Works Cited List

**Week Eight:** Revise & Submit the Final Draft



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**Grading Information:** Assignments one through seven will be averaged together to receive a weekly assignment grade. The final project presented on week eight will receive a separate grade. Both the weekly assignment average and the final project grade will be combined utilizing the weighting seen below:

Course Components	Percentage of Final Grade
Weekly Assignments	40%
Final Paper	60%

Assignments one through seven will be graded using the following rubric. The final project presented on week eight will be graded using our standard grading rubric for *The Advanced Writer*.

Exemplary 100%	Strong 99%-90%	Proficient 89%-80%	Developing 79%-70%	Emerging 69%-60%	Beginning 59%-50%	No Attempt 49% and below
Student has followed all assignment directions and has demonstrated exemplary understanding of lesson concepts.	Student has followed most assignment directions and has demonstrated strong understanding of lesson concepts.	Student has followed most assignment directions but has struggled to fully understand lesson concepts.	Student has followed some or most assignment directions but has demonstrated a need for better understanding of lesson concepts.	Student has followed some assignment directions but has demonstrated inadequate understanding of lesson concepts.	Student has followed few assignment directions and has demonstrated poor understanding of lesson concepts.	Student has followed few to no assignment directions and has demonstrated no understanding of lesson concepts.
For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted a complete assignment and demonstrated excellent effort.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted a mostly complete assignment and demonstrated strong effort.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted a mostly complete assignment and demonstrated proficient effort.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted mediocre written work and demonstrated some lack of effort.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted inadequate written work so that the instructor finds it difficult to provide helpful feedback.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted short and poorly written work so that the instructor is unable to provide helpful feedback.	For drafts of outline, bibliography, and paper, student has submitted nothing.