



The Lantern English Co.  
The Growing Writer

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## **The Research Paper – Syllabus**

**Course Description:** This course teaches the process of writing a research paper from establishing a topic, developing a thesis, finding sources, and reading/taking notes all the way through the planning and drafting stages to the final project. Students in this research class will write a paper 1500-2000 words long on the topic of their (or their parents') choice.

### **Class Outline:**

#### **I. Researching**

**Week One:** Establish your topic & submit thesis; find sources

**Week Two:** Read sources and take notes; submit a bibliography

**Week Three:** Finish reading; organize ideas using topical and sentence outlines

#### **II. Writing**

**Week Four:** Write first third of first draft

**Week Five:** Write second third of first draft

**Week Six:** Write final third of first draft

#### **III. Editing**

**Week Seven:** Revise the completed draft

**Week Eight:** Proofread & submit the final draft



## The Research Paper – Grading Information

Assignments 1-7 will be averaged together to receive a weekly assignment grade. The final project presented on Week 8 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 1-7 will be graded using the following rubric. The final project presented on Week 8 will be graded using our standard grading rubric for *The Growing 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.