

ARTICLES IN PSYCHOLOGY AND THEY HELP PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR FINAL PAPER****

Quizzes- Students will take an on-line assessment. Each quiz includes approximately 15-30 questions and consists primarily of multiple-choice items, but may include other item formats as well (e.g., short answer, matching). Quizzes are based on material covered in the textbook. Most quizzes will be worth 15-30 points each. Typically, quizzes will be posted on Monday mornings and are due by the following Sunday at 12:00 PM (NOON).

Final Paper (Scientific Literature Review and Critique) - One short paper (TYPED, in a program compatible with Microsoft Word 1997-2003 and later, up to 4 pages—not including references and cover page, double spaced, 12-point font with 1 inch margins) are required. You must have at least 5 references WHICH YOU SHOULD OBTAIN FROM PSYCHINFO OR GOOGLE SCHOLAR while logged in to UCM's library. SOURCES MUST BE PRIMARY SOURCES FROM PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS (NO WIKIPEDIA OR OTHER .COM WEBSITES). You will become more familiar with what peer-reviewed scientific articles look like through the class assignments. If you are unsure if you found appropriate articles, email me! Your paper topic must get approved by me before beginning this assignment. Include a cover page with the following information: TITLE OF PAPER, YOUR FIRST and LAST NAMES, MY NAME, COURSE NAME, and DATE. Your cover page should be centered to fit the page. Upon completion, please submit the paper on blackboard.

For the paper you must cite scientific research articles that present two sides of a topic relevant to psychology (e.g., evidence for and against a scientifically researched topic/question such as: cognitive behavioral therapy versus pharmacotherapy for the treatment of depression). Each paper requires that you critically evaluate the scientific research and write a coherent critique. Address the following in your paper:

1. Introduction (introduce the topic and discuss the scientific journal articles that support it and the studies that do not support it). Cite your sources throughout the paper: e.g., Dude and Duder (2008) found blah blah blah OR Using a sample of 100 dudes and dudettes, the relationship between blah and blah did not yield blah blah (Dude & Duder, 2008). **You will include your full references in the Reference section using APA style.**
2. Conclusions (What can be concluded from the current research? What conclusions are the most reasonable? You can integrate information you learned from your textbook in this section or in the critique section).
3. Critique (What are the methodological strengths and weaknesses of the studies you discussed? Can the evidence that has been provided by each side be interpreted another way? What further evidence would help me evaluate the mixed findings? What should future researchers do to address the weaknesses of published studies?)

The paper is worth fifty (50) points. Late papers will be reduced in value by ten (10) points for each day they are late. Please ask questions about this assignment well in advance!!! The standards used to evaluate the papers are as follows: (you will automatically receive 1 point for turning in a paper and your score will be multiplied by two (2) to give a total possible score of 50 points).

CATEGORY	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
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Quality of Information	Information clearly relates to the research topic. It presents and evaluates at least 5, recent empirical research articles. Displays critical thinking skills when discussing articles and in the overall critique section.	Information clearly relates to the research topic. It evaluates at least 3 empirical studies. Displays critical thinking skills throughout most of the paper.	Information clearly relates to the research topic. Evaluates 1 or 2 empirical studies and demonstrates minimal critical thinking skills.	Research studies have little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Organization	Information is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs and subheadings.	Information is organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Information is organized, but paragraphs are not well-constructed.	The information appears to be disorganized.
Amount of Information	Includes required information (i.e., introduction, conclusions, and critique) with thoroughly discussed details.	Includes required information but with less than adequate details.	Includes required information but minimal details.	One or more of the following were not included: introduction, conclusions, and/or critique.
Paragraph Construction	All paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Most paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Paragraphs included related information but were typically not constructed well.	Paragraphing structure was not clear and sentences were not typically related within the paragraphs.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Sources	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.	All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format.	Some sources are not accurately documented.

HOW MUCH TIME SHOULD I EXPECT TO SPEND ON THIS COURSE?

This requires you to complete an assignment or quiz on a weekly basis. Also, you are expected to fulfill the research requirement and to write a final paper. You will not do well if you do not turn in your work. You may be surprised by how much time is required to well in a college course, particularly if you are new to the college experience. Outlined below are estimates of the amount of time necessary, which may vary for different students. However, you should not expect to do well in the course if you spend less than