

COMMUNICATION THEORY RESEARCH PAPER GUIDELINES

1. Research theory utilizing four (4) or more valid, credible sources (academic and scholarly sources). You **cannot** use Wikipedia or Blogs as a source, points will be deducted if Wikipedia is utilized.
2. Theory paper will address the following (**this is your thesis**):
 - a. Define the theory
 - b. Identify the major theorist(s) associated with the theory
 - c. Discuss his/her contributions to the field as well as their educational and/or professional qualifications
 - d. Explain the theory with concrete everyday (current) examples
 - e. State what you have gleaned from your research and if you agree or disagree with the theory (explain in detail).
3. Paper Requirements:
 - a. Four or more fully typed pages; double spaced (these four pages are the content of your paper; your reference page does not count in the page requirement).
 - b. 12 font (Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman)
 - c. One inch top, bottom and side margins; no running head and no cover sheet.
 - d. Document sources in APA format
 - e. Proofread for grammar and spelling errors
 - f. Do not put your name at the top of your paper
 - g. Submit paper to the assignment folder in D2L as a **WORD DOCUMENT ATTACHMENT ONLY** on the designated day/date and time
4. See examples in your content D2L folder for the following:
 - a. General Reference Sheet
 - b. Introduction
 - c. Complete Theory Paper
 - d. APA citation help sheets
 - e. Template for presentational visual aid
5. All papers will be submitted to Turnitin.com to check for originality/plagiarism.
6. Regarding plagiarism and scoring:
 - a. You cannot put your whole paper in quotation marks and cite the work correctly. That is considered plagiarism since it is not your work.
 - b. You cannot change a couple of words from a direct source and claim it as your own. That is plagiarism.
 - c. If you cite in your paper and give the source in the paper, the source must be on the reference page.
 - d. Points will be deducted off the top when a paper has the following percentages of similarities identified by Turnitin.com:
 - ✓ 45 to 55% equals a deduction of 35 points
 - ✓ 56 to 66% equals a deduction of 55 points
 - ✓ 67 and above equals a deduction of 70 points
7. Points will be deducted for improper grammar (sentence structure, word usage) misspelled words, incorrect citations, and the inability to follow specific directions.
8. This paper is worth a possible 220 points.

**SEE EXAMPLES OF ALL COMMUNICATION THEORY
ASSIGNMENTS IN YOUR CONTENT D2I FOLDER**

APA References

- Cronen, Vernon E.; Pearce, W. Barnett. (1991/1992). *Research on Language & Social Interaction*. Vol. 25, p37-66. 30p.
- Pearce, B., & Cronen, V. (1980). *Communication, action, and meaning: The creation of social realities*. New York: Praeger
- Farmer, S. S. (2013). Communication disorders. In C. R. Reynolds, K. J. Vannest, & E. Fletcher-Janzen (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of special education: a reference for the education of children, adolescents, and adults with disabilities and other exceptional individuals* (4th ed.). Wiley.
- Emmers-Sommer, T. M., EMMERS-SOMMER, T. M., & GALVIN, K. M. (2003). Communication. In J. J. Ponzetti Jr. (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of marriage and family* (2nd ed.). Gale.
- Barnett Pearce, Ph.D. (2021, February 19). The Taos Institute.
<https://www.taosinstitute.net/about-us/people/in-memoriam/barnett-pearce>