

You have five specific topics listed below. Select ONLY one topic for your research paper. Submit a research paper using APA style for text Citations and References of at least 20 double spaced pages about your findings on your selected research topic. You must actually use at least 10 scholarly literary sources in our research report.

ACCEPTABLE RESEARCH TOPICS: (select one)

1. Economic impact of a U.S. initiated trade war with China on either the **U.S. economy** or the **Chinese economy**? (Select only one economy)
2. Economic impact of "Brexit" on the economy of either **United Kingdom** or **European Union**? (Select just one.)
3. Economic implications on international trade of imposing (US or European) labor standards (e.g, concerning age, working conditions, number of hours worked per day, etc.) on poorer countries?
4. Impact of free international trade on achieving the environmental goals for this planet?
5. Economic impact of disproportionate distribution of the world's wealth on international political and humanitarian unrest?
6. You can propose your own research topic for this report. It must address a significant issue pertaining to international economics and the topics we cover in this class.

STRUCTURE OF YOUR RESEARCH PAPER:

While academic disciplines vary on the exact format and style of journal articles in their field, most articles contain similar content and are divided in parts that typically follow the same logical flow. Following is a list of the parts commonly found in research papers:

1. Title
2. Abstract
3. Introduction
4. Literature Review
5. Methods
6. Results
7. Conclusions/Recommendations
8. References/Bibliography

Research papers are organized so that the information flow resembles an hourglass in that it goes from general to specific and then back to general again. The introduction and literature review sections will introduce the problem and provide general information. The methods and results will provide specific, detailed information about this research project and the discussion/conclusion will discuss the findings in a larger context. The following section will describe each of these parts in more detail. Additional information can be found in these websites:

<http://www.umuc.edu/current-students/learning-resources/writing-center/online-guide-to-writing/tutorial/chapter1/ch1-01.html>
<http://www.aresearchguide.com/1steps.html#step3>

Title: The title should be specific and indicate the problem the research project addresses using keywords that will be helpful in literature reviews in the future.

Abstract: The abstract is used by readers to quickly review the overall content of the paper. The abstract should provide a complete synopsis of the research paper and should introduce the topic and the specific research question, provide a statement regarding methodology and should provide a general statement about the results and the findings. Because it is really a summary of the entire research paper, it is often written last.

Introduction: The introduction begins by introducing the broad overall topic and providing basic background information. It then narrows down to the specific research question (your hypothesis) relating to your selected research topic. The introduction section provides the purpose and focus for the rest of the paper and establishes the justification for your research.

Literature Review: The purpose of the literature review is to describe past important research and it relate it specifically to the research problem. You should summarize each literary source you plan to use to support your hypothesis. It should be a synthesis of every literature sources you plan to use to

support your topic being researched. The review should examine the major theories related to the topic to date and their contributors. Credible sources include academic books and peer-reviewed journal articles. This YouTube video may be helpful to you on doing a literature review: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKL2pdRmwc4>

Methods: The methods section requires you to explain how you evaluated the quality of your literary sources that support your hypothesis. The general rule of thumb is that readers should be provided with enough detail to replicate the study.

Results: In this section, the results of literature analysis are presented. This section should focus only on results that are directly related to your hypothesis about the selected research topic. Graphs and tables should only be used when there is too much data to efficiently include it within the text. This section should present the results, but not discuss their significance.

Conclusions/Recommendations: This section should be a discussion of the results and the implications on the field, as well as other fields. The hypothesis should be answered and validated by the interpretation of the results. This section should also discuss how the results relate to previous research mentioned in the literature review, any cautions about the findings, and potential for future research.

References/Bibliography: The research paper is not complete without the list of references. This section should be a list of all the academic sources of information utilized in the paper. The APA style format of the references must be used for this research paper.