

CRIJ 3315
INVESTIGATIVE PROJECT
FORMAT OUTLINE

1) APA style

The following link is a great resource for learning how to format your paper and references in APA style: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

2) 5 - 7 pages, double spaced excluding title page and references

3) At least 4 research references (e.g. professional books, peer-reviewed journals, government analytical data)

4) Organizational Outline:

Title Page

Abstract (50-100 words)

Use section titles for I – V and subtitles as needed within sections

The following sections must be included in the paper part of the project.

I. Introduction

- A. Type of criminal behavior or name of offender to be investigated
- B. Importance of study – why study this topic

II. Review of Literature

- A. Nature, extent, and scope of the crime problem presented by this type of criminal behavior. Or, brief biography of the offender.
- B. Brief description of reasons used to explain the criminal behavior (theories, psychological causes, environmental factors, etc.)
- C. Characteristics, profile, typologies, etc.
- D. Other research in professional journals related to this topic

III. Discussion

- A. How well does research explain this criminal behavior?
- B. How is this criminal similar and different from other types of criminals?
- C. Present a case example of this type of criminal behavior (news story, current event, historical figure, etc)

IV. Conclusions

- A. What do we not know (and need to learn) about this issue or type of criminal?
- B. Suggestions for setting up future research projects
- C. Your summary and insights into this topic

V. References

- A. APA style reference page. The following is an example of a journal citation in APA.

Smith, J. & Jones, D. (2008). The correlation between homicide and moon tides. *Journal of Mythical Criminology*, 45, 613-666.

Refer to the Purdue link above for book and other reference resources citations.