

### Project Introduction Section

**Total Grade Points:** 100 Points (21.3% of Project grade; 10% of the Final Course Grade)

**Due Date:** Sunday, June 13, by 11:59 P.M.

Download the *Sample Intro* and rubric (PDF files).

The project is a correlational research study. At this point you have selected three variables, formulated three hypotheses, and reviewed at least three different, relevant, peer-reviewed articles as part of the *Brief proposal and hypotheses* assignment due in Week 1. The next step is the *Introduction* section of the research paper.

The *Introduction* section of a Research Paper is where the authors describe the topic that they are interested in investigating. As a part of this the author will describe and discuss past research on the topic, define specific concepts and ideas, and outline the specific research they plan to do.

#### Instructions (see the Sample Intro section, too!):

- For your *Introduction* section:
  - Begin with a general introduction paragraph introducing the reader to the topic of the paper and describe the issue being investigated and why it is important.
  - Near the end of that first paragraph state the purpose of the study and what is being examined (e.g., “In the present study, the researcher examined...”).
  - Next, review the relevant literature, and cite the articles properly using APA style. The literature review should provide a rationale for the study. This review is likely to be several paragraphs long... at least one paragraph for each article used as part of the literature review.
  - After the literature review, briefly describe the research you plan to do along with an overview of the method you will use.
  - In the final paragraph, state the hypotheses (there will be three, as outlined in the *Brief proposal and hypothesis* assignment). This should not be a bullet-point list; each hypothesis should be clearly stated as a sentence within a paragraph.
- This project utilizes an online survey. Therefore, briefly state that self-reported measures were used, and that data were collected via online questionnaires, identifying the questionnaires relevant to YOUR variables.
- This section is a part of the *final* research paper, so use *past tense* when describing the research method and procedure.
- If the feedback you received for your *Brief proposal and hypotheses* indicated that there were problems, make sure that these hypotheses have been revised and are correct for the assignment. If you have not made these corrections, your project will be WRONG and will receive a far lower grade that you are likely to be happy with.
- For *this assignment*, students need to include at least five different peer-reviewed research articles related to the topic of your research project. At least three of them must be no older than 2011 (published between 2011 and the present). Using those from the *Brief proposal and hypotheses* assignment is a good way to start (they can count as three of the five).

- Students *must* cite their sources whether they paraphrase or quote directly from a source; otherwise, it is considered plagiarism.
  - One cannot discuss findings of other research studies without citing the source(s) and giving those author(s) credit.
  - In-text citations must be APA-style. Review the relevant pages of the *APA Publication Manual*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
  - Students can also use the Purdue OWL website to help produce correct citations: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/in\\_text\\_citations\\_the\\_basics.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html)
- Include a *References* section that consists of a list of the articles cited in the paper.
  - References must be APA-style. Review Chapters 8 - 10 of the *APA Publication Manual*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition.
  - Students can also use the Purdue OWL website to help produce correct references: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/reference\\_list\\_basic\\_rules.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/reference_list_basic_rules.html)
- The minimum length for the *Introduction* section is 650 words.
  - Points will be deducted if the *Introduction* has fewer than **650 words**.
  - The word limit of 650 words is VERY low... shooting for the “minimum” amount of effort is likely to result in a minimum level grade... If you would prefer to be directed to a better target number, I would recommend at least 800 words, or more.
  - This word-minimum *does not* include the Title page, References section, or *quoted material*.
- When writing the *Introduction*, use the following style and format guidelines:
  - Use the formatting guidelines outlined in the *APA Publication Manual*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition
  - A title page for a professional paper, with running head and page numbers, should be included in this assignment. An “Author’s note” is not necessary.
  - Refrain from using quotations except when absolutely necessary. Putting things in your own words, paraphrasing, illustrates understanding and mastery, quoting material generally only illustrates that one can “cut and paste.”
  - Paraphrased material must still be identified with a citation to its source
  - Use college-level writing style and grammar
  - The ONLY acceptable fonts (per the *APA Publication Manual*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition) are:
    - 11-point Calibri
    - 11-point Arial
    - 10-point Lucida Sans Unicode
    - 12-point Times New Roman (recommended)
    - 11-point Georgia
    - 10-point Computer Modern.
  - **Whichever font is selected, the same font should be used throughout the entire assignment (and used in all other elements of the project for this class).**
- Save your work regularly so that, if there is a computer crash or other problem, not much work is lost. It is YOUR responsibility to save often and to have back-ups. Attempting to claim

that you lost your work due to a computer crash or something will NOT provide you with an extension.

- Students may work with any word processing software they wish, **but the file *must be in Microsoft Word (.docx or .doc) format when submitted to the dropbox.*** All students have access to Microsoft Word via the UWM Office 365 service. If you prefer to use another word processor, most can “Save as...” or “Export as...” other formats and *Microsoft Word* is always an option!

**Documents submitted in other formats are considered to have NOT been submitted** until such time as they are submitted in the correct format. **PDF documents ARE NOT Microsoft Word documents.** “Sharing” a document from your UWM OneDrive is also not acceptable.

When a student is ready to submit their assignment, upload the saved Microsoft Word document (.docx or .doc) to the [Project – Introduction] dropbox in Canvas.

This assignment must be completed and submitted individually as indicated in the course syllabus. Let the instructor know if there are any questions or concerns about this assignment.