

The Final Assignment: Writing the Research Question - SUBMIT YOUR RQ HERE - WED 10/16

[Re-submit Assignment](#)

Due Oct 16 by 11:59pm **Points** 10 **Submitting** a text entry box or a file upload

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RQ HERE - WED 10/16 (worksheet given in class). Also, if you are going to pair up with another student put both yours and your classmates' names on the RQ so you both get credit.

THIS IS THE OVERVIEW OF THE FINAL ASSIGNMENT - due at the end of the semester.

We will discuss the FIRST part - Writing A RQ in class on Monday 10/14

COMM 3000

Lit Review/Final Research Assignment

Overview

This research-based assignment offers you an opportunity to sharpen your skills in academic and professional writing in Communication Studies and to prepare for your upper division and Capstone classes. Your primary aim is to undertake research in order to examine a topic, question, issue, or problem relevant to your particular field of study (ex. Organizational, Interpersonal, Mass Media, Rhetoric and Social Change, etc.) Your examination may involve expository, persuasive, and/or critical modes of writing – everything we covered the first half of the semester. Moreover, your aims and methods of investigation may take a variety of forms (quantitative, qualitative, rhetorical analysis, etc). As a result of the assignment, it is hoped that you gain an appreciation for the artistic as well as technical aspects of research-based writing.

Your Final Paper assignment includes an 8-10 page *Lit Review*, through which we will undergo the process of writing a preliminary research question and search terms, creating an annotated bibliography, a literature review, and then finish the paper by suggesting an original study you could conduct in the future.

Guidelines and grading criteria for each are included below.

Prospectus Guidelines

- Choose a topic or subject area appropriate in content and scope for a focused Communication Studies research-based paper.

- Formulate preliminary questions and issues that will guide you in your final paper.
- Formulate a Research Question, thesis, and rationale for your final paper.
- Conduct research on your chosen topic or subject area. Consider the types of research appropriate to your subject as well as the criteria for evaluating sources.
- Formulate an overview of the theories, concepts, and/or investigative method(s) that you plan to use in your final paper.
- Consider the organizational structure that you intend to follow in the final paper.
- Use all of the above to write up an 8-10 page proposal for your final paper.
- Your prospectus should:
 - be clearly written and organized based on above guidelines; ◦ include 10+ primary academic sources;
 - typed and double-spaced, with appropriate margins NOT including the title page or works cited pages.

Prospectus Due: at the beginning of class on the day of your presentation.

Prospectus Paper Grading Criteria (150 points – annotated bib, lit review, final paper, including mandatory 5-minute presentation of your research the last week of class)

- Quality and depth of discussion
 - Clear organization and idea development
 - Quality of writing – including grammar, diction, punctuation, and readability
- ☐ Formatting of bibliographic citations (APA)