**Structural Engineering Research 1000 words**

**The assignment: a professor in your department has asked you to prepare a guide for graduating seniors that includes the most important things they need to know about the discipline after they graduate.**

**MY Major: Civil Engineering**

**My Discipline: Structural Engineering**

Your guide should include the following about your discipline:

* 1000 words
* The major associations and a brief discussion of each—what they do
* The major journals and/or trade publications and/or web journals and a brief discussion of each—what types of articles and what types of writers they publish
* The writing conventions, including citation styles and types of writing done
* A few examples of active discussions happening within your discipline, giving a brief overview of each
* Important: a discussion of how knowledge is generated in your discipline—what type of research do scholars in your field conduct; what are the standards of evidence used in this research; how is this knowledge disseminated to professionals in your field.

**Tips:**

* As much as possible, keep this guide in paragraph format. Do not just put this information into a list.
* Please cite from at least 5 credible sources; web sources are fine. Use MLA/APA style in-text citations and bibliography.
* **You are not writing about your major (what classes you need to take, what exams you need to pass), you are writing about the discipline that students will enter after Mason.**
* Not all disciplines look alike; the information in your guide might be very different from the letter of the person sitting next to you. If you feel that your discipline doesn’t fit into the mold of a traditional major, explain how and why it is different.

**Grading Rubric**

Followed Assignment Prompt, 20%

Did you include the required information from the writing assignment?

Overall Success of Report 20%

Would this be a helpful, understandable report for a new student?

Breadth of Research 20%

Did you do enough research?  Did you try new directions when others were unsuccessful?

Depth of Research 10%

Did you read your sources critically and closely, putting effort into understanding them?  Did you carefully select quotes/paraphrases?

Structure and Organization 10%

Is your letter organized logically? Do you integrate your sources well? Do you include topic sentences and transitions that make your letter easy to read?

Sentences, Grammar, Spelling 10%

Did you put time into revising, editing, and correcting errors?

Citations 10%

Did you carefully follow the rules of your academic conventions for citation (e.g. APA, MLA)?