

Research Paper

Research paper – 5-10 pages.

The student may select any topic that relates to the time period 1500-present, in European or world history. This can be a specific person (Isaac Newton, Queen Victoria, Mahatma Ghandi, Catherine the Great, etc); a battle in a war (Battle of Britain, Battle of Waterloo, etc); a topic of social or scientific history (technology of war in the 17th, 18th, 19th centuries; changes in medical technology; pets; hair-styles; clothing; technology of bathrooms; Great Exhibition of 1851, etc). Student must have instructor approval of the topic.

Research must include at least one PRIMARY source (document from the time about which you're writing. This can be a letter from Queen Victoria or Catherine the Great, if that's who you're writing about; a newspaper article written at the time of the Battle of Waterloo, etc).

At least TWO of your research sources MUST be a non-Internet source (magazine article, book, etc). Part of the purpose of this is to give you practice in using the library. Electronic format books and magazines count as print sources – the Pierce College library has a wonderful collection of these. You can, however, find the primary source document on line. You can use the text book, but if you do, you must still have TWO **OTHER** non-Internet sources.

The research paper will be worth a maximum of 50 points. (The same as a test)

Things I am looking for:

You must have notes – either footnotes or MLA-style notes in parentheses – telling me where in the document, or in the research source, you got what you're telling me. (For example, if you tell me, "Julius Caesar wore a wreath on his head to cover up his bald spot," tell me where you got this from, either as a footnote¹, or in the MLA style (Smith, John, *Personal Conversations with Caesar*, pg. 37).

¹ Like this: Smith, John, *Personal Conversations with Caesar*, London, 1972 , pg. 37 [notice, name of book is in italics].

Footnotes can be either at the bottom of the page, or on a separate page at the end of the paper. (And, this page is different from the "Works Cited" page).

You must have a "Works Cited" (or "Bibliography") page – a separate page at the end of the paper listing all your sources, both print and internet. URLs for the Internet sources; print sources, author's name first (in alphabetical order), then title of book or article, place of publication, date of publication. If it's an article, tell me what journal it was in, plus date. If it's a documentary, give me the date.

Material quoted from books, websites, or the primary source document itself **MUST** be in quotes (" ") and **MUST** be cited (tell me where you got it). Facts that are not direct quotes should be cited in a note. (Where did you find this information?)

Needless to say, **SIMPLY CUTTING AND PASTING MATERIAL FROM THE INTERNET WITHOUT SAYING THAT YOU CUT AND PASTED IT** (this is, claiming that YOU wrote it instead of someone else) is called **PLAGIARISM**. It is **ILLEGAL**, it is **STEALING**, and I **WILL TEAR UP YOUR PAPER AND TURN YOU OVER TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS**.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT PLAGARISM IS, ASK ME.

Copying another student's work is also plagiarism. If I get two papers that are identical – or that are almost identical (same paragraphs, same sentences, but a couple of words changed) – **BOTH** papers will be graded "0" and **BOTH** students will be turned in to the Dean of Students.