

Research Paper Template By

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It is impossible to get a good grade on a research paper without the correct formatting. You should have a title page with a title and author on it. You center the title both vertically and horizontally. The beginning of each paragraph should be indented $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The body of the work should be double-spaced, no line breaks between paragraphs. There should be one inch margins on the top, bottom, left, and right. Each page of the body should be numbered; the title page should not have a number. The bibliography can have a number, but you can't count it as a page of text.

Your first paragraph should be an introduction and thesis statement to your subject. The rest of the body of your text should be backing up your thesis. If it does not help your thesis, then you do not need it. A little background leading up to your subject is okay. You do not want information that does not relate directly to your thesis in your paper. Ask yourself is this information helping/adding to my thesis, if not get rid of it do more research and put something else in.

Use all your handouts that I posted under Paper guidelines. Finish early enough that you can go over the checklist and ensure that you completed all the essentials for your paper. You should have someone else proof-read your paper. The Centers for Learning have some writing tutors that you can book an appointment with, the schedule is at online at <http://www.uml.edu/class>. Click on tutoring and go to the tutoring schedule and look for the writing tutors. If you don't use the tutors, have someone read it, they might notice big mistakes. At the very least read your paper out loud, this will make it easier to see if it sounds right. General rule of thumb if it does not sound right, then it isn't right.

David Driscoll once said, "For every quote or paraphrase that you use, you need to have a footnote or endnote"¹. Use the footnote handout for the proper formatting. Your Bibliography

¹ David Driscoll, *History of Research Paper* (Lowell, Umass Press, 2002), 12.

should have each of your sources that you looked at listed only once. The only difference in the formatting is that you put last name first and put them alphabetically according to author. You should have the Bibliography on the last page and at the top of the page put the title of Bibliography. You should have 7 pages of text; you can't count the title page or the Bibliography towards the 7 pages. That is it, good luck!

Bibliography

Driscoll, David. History of Research Paper (Lowell, Umass Press, 2002), 12.