

Research Writing

Instructors: Ching Kang Liu
Class time: Wednesday (9:10-12:00)
Office hours: Tuesday (3:10-5:00)
Nicenet: www.nicenet.org
Class Key: **GZ7682ZR93**

Texts: Hatch-Farhady. *Research Design and Statistics for Applied Linguistics*. (RDAS)
Turabian. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, & Dissertations*, 4th Edition. (MW)
Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.). American Psychological Association, D.C.

References: Engel, S. M. (2000). *With Good Reason: An Introduction to Informal Fallacies* (6th Ed.) NY: Bedford/St. Martin's.
Meltzoff, J. (1998). *Critical Thinking About Research: Psychology and Related Fields*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
Nicol, A. A. M. & P. M. Pexman. (1999). *Presenting Your Findings*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
Roth, A. J. (1995). *The Research Paper: Process, Form, and Content* (7th Ed.). CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company.
Slade, C. (1997). *Form and Style: Research Papers, Reports, Theses* (10th Ed.). NY: Houghton Mifflin Company.
Swales, J. M. & C. B. Feak. (1994). *Academic Writing for Graduate Students*. The University of Michigan Press.
Weissberg, R. & S. Buker. (1990). *Writing up Research*. NJ: Prentice Hall.

Objectives: This course is designed to help the attendants (1) to get familiar with essential factors that make a good research paper; (2) to organize literature review, methodology and to interpret the findings; and (3) to wrap the whole paper with good discussion and conclusion in appropriate formats or styles.

Course policies: Students are expected to attend class regularly, to turn in all assignments, including the term paper, on time, and to participate fully in class discussions. **Absences from classes will be taken as giving up part of the following 20% of their total scores.**

Grades:	Participation and performance in class	20%
	Assignments and reports	40%
	Final paper	40% (Total = 100)

A Tentative Schedule:

Sep. 20 Course Introduction—How to get started with the research writing
Sep. 27 Getting to know the basic elements of research (**Read** RDAS Chapters 1-2)
Assignment: *Start thinking about a proposal you are going to write or write about.*
Oct. 4 Constructing and reporting research designs (**Read** RDAS Chapters 3-4); Discuss proposal structure
Assignment: *Write a proposal for a study: construct your own research design based on the materials you have learned from the previous chapters.*
Oct. 11 Reporting a proposal in class and hand it in to the instructor (1)
Assignment: *Start collecting your data, organizing literature review for the paper*
Oct. 18 Reporting a proposal in class and hand it in to the instructor (2)
Oct. 25 Citations, the use of footnotes and parentheses, and other formats of RW
Nov. 1 No academic schedules for today
Nov. 8 How to sort and display the data (**Read** RDAS Chapters 5-6); A *t*-test and how to apply the results
Nov. 15 **Mid-term**
Nov. 22 **Read** sample articles; criticizing samples 1-4
Nov. 29 **Read** sample articles; criticizing samples 5-8
Assignment: *Get ready for a final oral report with your paper*
Dec. 6 Students' oral reports (1)
Dec. 13 Students' oral reports (2)
Dec. 20 Students' oral reports (3)
Dec. 27 Students' oral reports (4)
Jan. 3 Wrapping up the course and the **final exam**
Jan. 10 Deadline for the final written paper (No class today)