

Introduction and Methods

First Draft and Peer Review Due: Mar. 20

Second Draft and Peer Review: Mar 22

Final Draft Due: Mar. 25

Guidelines: I anticipate this portion of the assignment being about 2-3 pages. Submit your document as a word document named: Lastname-Methods-Draft, Feedback, Final.

Introduction: (Hint: It is easiest to write your Introduction *last!*)

Your introduction will start out by introducing me to your topic. This part will help orient me as a reader to your research topic, give me a brief overview of the background and keywords, and then you will outline what you did and your results. This is much shorter than your literature review and does not go into the same depth. The introduction can come in many forms, so it might be a good idea to look in [Stylus](#) to see how other people have done their introductions.

Things that you might include:

1. You will want to establish some kind of **exigence** for your essay and provide your reader a *brief background* on your topic and question. This is not as thorough as your literature review, but simply helps to orient your reader to the general field. This is a good place to introduce a few keywords that you might define in more detail in your literature review.
2. Tell your reader what your research question was and **why** your research is important too. Tell me why I should care enough to keep reading.

3. You can also tell the reader what you will do in your paper. This can be as simple as “First, I will outline the previous literature.” Then tell the reader what you did to conduct your research.
4. Tell the reader what you found from your research. What is your claim? (Remember, we have said that claims are arguable and supported by evidence)

Methods: This portion tells the reader *how* you conducted your research.

What method did you do to answer your research question and how does it answer your research question? Take a look back at *Easy Writer* for this part. Did you use ethnography? Case studies? Surveys? Interviews? Archival Research? Textual Analysis? **Why did you choose these methods and how did you do conduct your research? What are the benefits and pitfalls of your methods? You will need to CITE *Easy Writer* in this section to show me that you have thought about your research method and why you chose it.**

You are not analyzing anything at this point but telling your audience how you collected your evidence. This section will include:

1. **Your data collection methods.** First, tell the reader how you selected your methods. Next, the reader also needs to know how you selected your **unit of analysis** (primary sources). Why these documents, or why these participants? Don't forget to include any necessary contextualizing information about these documents and participants. What are their histories and what was the cultural climate in which you analyzed them?

2. **Describe what you did to collect your data.** If you sent out a survey, how did you send it out? How did you contact your interviewees? How did you choose which posts you analyzed?

a. **What questions did you ask in your survey or interview? Why were those questions appropriate?**

b. **If you analyzed documents, what document did you analyze? How many? When and how did you access them? WHY did you choose those documents?**

3. **Describe *how* you analyzed your data** (You will tell the reader *what* you made from this analysis later in the discussion section). Tell me how you coded your data here. What were your categories and how did you choose them?

4. **Be transparent and honest; note any limitations to your methods or to your research.** Was your sample size really small? Did your position or your role as a researcher affect the way that you interpreted the results in any way and did you have any stakes in the study? As a researcher, I appreciate honesty and transparency above all else here. If your research was a total flop; fine. Tell me why and what you would do differently.

For more examples of some of the previous research projects that students have completed, visit Stylus at

<http://writingandrhetoric.cah.ucf.edu/stylus/issues.php>.

Online Citation Resources:

For MLA, go to -> <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

For APA, go to -> <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

This Introduction and Methods section meets the outcomes listed on UCF's ENC 1102 webpage by encouraging you to synthesize sources and understand the intertextual nature of texts (outcome 1). It promotes inquiry-based research as you outline your own methods that you used to answer your questions (outcome 2). It will help you organize your own data to interpret it for a given community (outcome 3) and it will encourage you to reflect on your own conceptions of writing (outcome 4).

Grading:

Criteria	Pts
Follows Assignment instructions	2.0 pts
Organized as the assignment requires	2.0 pts

<p>Unity</p> <p>-Focuses on a specific purpose for a defined audience - Defines a topic leading to a clearly stated thesis -Analyzes and synthesizes evidence around thesis throughout the text</p>	<p>4.5 pts</p>
<p>Development</p> <p>-Provides adequate and relevant supporting information gathered from the critical readings and/or secondary sources - Shows careful research and use of trustworthy sources - Integrates the student's ideas of others to draw conclusions and build arguments -Paraphrases, summarizes, and quotes sources effectively -Documents all sources appropriately in- text and in a reference listing such as Works Cited when quoted, paraphrased, summarized, or otherwise used for information</p>	<p>4.5 pts</p>
<p>Conventions of Academic Writing</p> <p>-Uses sentence structure, tone, voice, and vocabulary appropriate for academic writing - Has been proofread and edited carefully to reflect Standard English considerations -Is formatted according to MLA, APA, or other standards of the assignment</p>	<p>4.0 pts</p>

<p>Coherence</p> <p>-Presents effective transitions between paragraphs and between sentences - Uses clear prose including sentence-level such as variation, rhythm, vocabulary, and phrasing</p>	<p>4.0 pts</p>
<p>Evidence</p> <p>-Develops points thoroughly with specific and concrete (ex: quotes, data, statistics) -Engages with an appropriate number of reliable, college-level support -Integrates evidence from outside sources smoothly and with precise documentation</p>	<p>2.0 pts</p>
<p>A = Accomplished</p> <p>Clarity Accuracy Precision Relevance Depth Breadth Logical progression Seamless Coherence</p>	<p>2.0 pts</p>

25 Points