**Assignment 1 Instructions: Library research instructions**

  Length: 400-600 words. 4-6 entries; about 60-120 words per source .

Purpose/goals of the assignment: • Develop your ability to conduct scholarly research and relate the results of this research to a specific inquiry. • Develop your ability to translate specialist information into non-specialist language draft building blocks for the final report. • Practice APA citation style (or MLA if you are majoring in a humanities field).

Assignment Introduction: Answering a research question involves seeking out and processing information that helps you answer that question. This is true whether you are researching insurance plans or conducting academic research. In developing the Library Research Report, you will seek out scholarly articles relevant to your research question, extracting ideas from them that you will later synthesize into a final report (i.e., the final version of your project) and an answer–however tentative–to your research question. 2/6 This Library Research Report can be seen as a type of “annotated bibliography.” But please note that your goal in developing this report is not simply to summarize sources; your purpose here is to focus on finding research that is relevant to your research question. As you write your summaries, you will be producing “building blocks” for the first draft of your Final Research Project. This means that you should be summarizing only content that is directly relevant to your research question. Your writing should also be clear and accessible to non-specialist readers. A carefully constructed Library Research Report will significantly lighten your workload when you reach Week Three, when the rough draft of your Final Research Project is due, since you’ll be able to construct your draft from writing you’ve already completed rather than starting from scratch.

 Assignment Specifications Your finished Library Research Report should include: • Your name at the top of the document. (You can follow strict APA if you’d like and include a separate title page, but this is not required); • Your research question (at the top of the report); • Complete and correct citations for 4-6 scholarly, peer-reviewed journal articles accessed through NU Library databases; • A paragraph of 60-120 words on each source that answers the following questions:

 WHO? Who stands behind the information? Your entry should identify (quickly and concisely) the background/credentials that connect the article’s author/s to the topic. (See Lecture 6 in the Week Two Lectures folder) on identifying scholarly sources for guidance and examples: Identifying Sources (Part 2)

WHAT? Identify a claim (or claims) presented in the article that is relevant to your inquiry. (Remember, your task is not to summarize the entire article, but to summarize the article content that is relevant for your own inquiry. In some cases, of course, the entire article may be directly relevant to your project.)

HOW? How is the claim supported? How do the authors back up the claim? (Don’t go nuts here and summarize every detail of the methodology. Instead, strive for the kind of concise, general summary one might find in a news account of recent research findings.) 3/6

SO WHAT? What is the relevance of the claim for your inquiry? (Sometimes you’ll be able to express the “what” and “so what” at the same time, in which case you shouldn’t try to artificially separate them.

Just make sure that your paragraph addresses all of the categories–WHO, WHAT, HOW, and SO WHAT? And remember that your answer to the “so what?” question should point to your own research inquiry.) Tip! If you’re having trouble getting started, tackle each of the above questions— Who/What/How/So What? —one at a time. Before you know it, you’ll have written—or at least sketched out–your first paragraph. Note: Limit your use of direct quotation. Quote only when you need to call attention to key terms or phrases. Use complete sentences, correct spelling and punctuation, etc.

Attached are the instructions I have copied and past under ILR 260 Library Research Report Instructions. You have already completed the Final research paper and that can be used for this and assignment 2.

**Assignment 2 Instructions: Synthesis Worksheet**

Directions: Using the four peer-reviewed articles you collected from the National University Library, you will complete this Synthesis Worksheet as preparation for the Week 3 Draft, which needs to be organized around the synthesis of your research. This Synthesis Worksheet and the trends you uncover will serve as an outline for your paper.

**Directions:** For this paper, you need to be able to engage in synthesis. Watch the video linked here before attempting this activity. Then follow the steps needed to begin your synthesis. If you determine from this analysis that you still need to complete more research, that is fine. You can still submit your Library Research Report and this assignment without additional research. Just know that you will want to complete more research before completing your draft next week.

[Video: What Is Synthesis?](https://youtu.be/ObK6J7vGnw8)

**Synthesizing Your Research**

Use this worksheet to begin the task of synthesizing your research. This will require you to review each scholarly article and list the findings of the authors for each.

State Your Narrowed Down Research Question:

**Part IV**

**Directions:** List each article you have found for your Library Research Report Assignment.

Scholarly Article 1 Title:

1. Primary Finding1: Example-High school students who spend more than four hours per day on social media report an inability to sleep at night.
2. Primary Finding 2: Example-High school students who spend more than four hours per day on social media report symptoms of depression.
3. Primary Finding 3: Example-Four to five hours on social media was considered an excessive amount of time to spend on social media
4. Primary Finding 4: The authors report not being able to determine what constitutes *addiction* to social media.
5. Primary Finding 5:
6. Primary Finding 6:

Scholarly Article 2 Title:

1. Primary Finding1: Example-High school students who spend an excessive amount of time on social media suffer from depression.
2. Primary Finding 2: Example-Spending four to five hours on social media per day was considered to be an excessive amount of time.
3. Primary Finding 3:
4. Primary Finding 4:
5. Primary Finding 5:
6. Primary Finding 6:

Scholarly Article 3 Title:

1. Primary Finding1: Example-High school students who spend more than four hours per day on social media report symptoms of depression.
2. Primary Finding 2: Example-An excessive amount of time on social media was determined to be a minimum of four hours with more than six hours considered “addiction.”
3. Primary Finding 3:
4. Primary Finding 4:
5. Primary Finding 5:
6. Primary Finding 6:

Scholarly Article 4 Title:

1. Primary Finding1: High school students who use social media a minimum of eight hours per day are considered to have an addiction problem.
2. Primary Finding 2:  Excessive use of social media is consistent with weight gain, eye strain, and insomnia.
3. Primary Finding 3:
4. Primary Finding 4:
5. Primary Finding 5:
6. Primary Finding 6:

Directions: Now that you have listed the findings of each of your four scholarly sources, it is time to look for trends or patterns. Which articles report a similar or the same finding in their research?

Trend or Theme: Example-Spending four or more hours per day on social media is considered to be an excessive amount of time according to psychologists.

Explanation:

1. Article: Article 1 Title
2. Article: Article 2 Title
3. Article: Article 3 Title
4. Article:

Explore Significance: Now as you review what these authors are saying about excessive use of social media, what can you observe about the significance of the data?

**Trend or Theme:** Repeat the same steps, but if you determine that each article has completely different findings, and you are unable to establish any trend, then that tells you that you have not done enough research since your paper will need more than one article to establish any kind of trend. Three or four articles to support a single trend is even better.

Explanation:

1. Article:
2. Article:
3. Article:
4. Article:

Explore Significance

Trend or Theme:

Explanation:

1. Article:
2. Article:
3. Article:
4. Article:

Explore Significance

Trend or Theme:

Explanation:

1. Article:
2. Article:
3. Article:
4. Article:

Explore Significance

Trend or Theme:

Explanation:

1. Article:
2. Article:
3. Article:
4. Article:

Explore Significance

**Directions:** Are there any specific findings about which all your authors seem to disagree? List that issue here. Then list each article title that fits this observation along with the finding for each.

**Point of Disagreement Among Authors:** Example-Psychologists who have studied social media use among high school students do not seem to agree with what constitutes *addiction*.

1. Article Title 1 (e.g. “Social Media Among Teens in Southern California” : The authors report not being able to determine what constitutes *addiction* to social media.
2. Article Title 2:
3. Article Title 3: Example-An excessive amount of time on social media was determined to be a minimum of four hours with more than six hours considered “addiction.”
4. Article Title 4: High school students who use social media a minimum of eight hours per day are considered to have an addiction problem.

**Anomaly in the Research**

**Directions:**Is there a finding in one of your articles so far that no other authors report in their studies? List the article title and then the anomaly they report.

Anomaly in the Research: Excessive use of social media is consistent with weight gain, eye strain, and insomnia.

1. Article Title: Article 4 Title

Anomaly in the Research:

1. Article Title:

**Part V, Conclusions and Next Steps**

**Directions:** Based on what you have learned from this synthesis, what do you need to do next to prepare to write your draft next week? List your ideas here, and make a plan for next steps.

1. Example: I need to check for more articles that indicate that excessive social media results in health problems.

**If you need an example for assignment two please let me know.**

**Assignment 3 Instruction: Final Research paper**

**Has already been done and was sent from this email. Can be used to complete Assignment 1: Library Research Report and Assignment 2: Synthesis Worksheet.**