Presentation
College of Allied Health

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Coordinator, The Writing Center
The University of Oklahoma
Health Sciences Center
The OUHSC Writing Center is located in Rm. 214 in the D. L. Boren Student Union and serves the students, faculty, and staff of the entire campus.

- One-hour appointments are available Monday-Friday from 9:00-3:00. To make an appointment, register at ouhsc.mywconline.com.

- Papers may be emailed to writingcenter@ouhsc.edu; please allow 3-5 business days turnaround time.

- If an appointment outside of normal business hours is required, please contact the Writing Center Coordinator at mary-carter@ouhsc.edu.
Visit the Writing Center webpage (OUHSC Home>Student Services>HSC Writing Center) to access WC Online—the Writing Center’s online appointmenting system or go to ouhsc.mywconline.com

HSC Writing Center
The OUHSC Writing Center, which is located in Room 214 in the DLB Student Union, serves the students, faculty, and staff of the entire OU Health Sciences campus. Services provided by the Writing Center include help with topic selection, strategies for successful research, proper citation use, grammar correctness and draft revision.

Available Services
- Starting a writing project
- Conducting research
- Incorporating sources
- Logical paper organization
- Citation/Documentation (JAMA, APA, etc.)
- Clarity and style
- Language usage guidelines

All Kinds of Writing
- Research papers
- Application essays/Personal statements
- Reports
- Theses and Dissertations
- Cover letters
- Resumes/Curriculum Vitae
- Presentations
- Any writing project

Quick links
- Book an Appointment with the Writing Center
  Head to mywconline to book an appointment now.
- Optimize your Resume
  search resume templates and find examples of winning resumes at OptimalResume.
You will be prompted to register. All students must register before making a writing center appointment.
Select an available time (white blocks) from the schedule; you will receive and emailed confirmation. All actions taken on your appointment (e.g. cancellations) must be performed through the system. Hover your cursor over the clock face to be added to a waiting list for a particular day.
Getting organized

- Decide upon your topic and/or perspective as soon as possible. Inform your decision by doing some preliminary research.
- Keep track of assignment deadlines and due dates. Develop an organizational system and stick to it.
- Plan out various stages of your papers/assignments according to a timetable. If the professor does not have tasks throughout the semester, develop your own, i.e. “research completed for Paper Y” or “rough draft due.”
- Make an appointment for the Writing Center early and one that allows ample time for revision.
Research Article

Much of our written output as academics is comprised of research manuscripts and articles. They are the primary vehicles to convey the results of our research. Research articles are composed of discreet sections:

- Abstract—contains the research topic and objective, methods, results, and conclusion in 1-2 sentences each
- Introduction—provides first the context and justification and then narrows down to research problem/objective. Includes a review of the literature
- Methods—addresses operational definitions, participants, instruments and tools used as well as analysis
- Results—analyzes and reports upon the data
- Discussion/Conclusion—interprets the findings’ implication to the original research question, acknowledges limitations, and if desired, and restates their importance
Research Strategies

• Once you have located relevant articles, look also at studies those articles cite.
• Always go to the original source to cite it.
• Combine tasks as you research, and never research without taking notes.
• As you read through printed articles, always have a pen/pencil in hand to mark important passages, respond to the author, etc.
• Begin a research outline and fill it in as you go. Organize by point/topic or by paragraph structure.
• Use Ask a Librarian on the Bird Library website.
• Utilize your information specialists aka librarians.
A research template can help organize your research and make it more efficient. Tweak it to fit your own research style and needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author, Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type of Research Design</th>
<th>Sample Size And Type</th>
<th>Data Collection</th>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Reliability &amp; Validity/Trustworthiness</th>
<th>Type of Analysis</th>
<th>Findings</th>
<th>Strengths and Weaknesses</th>
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Write Before You Write

It is important to write about your topic, though not necessarily in a formal structured way, before you actually sit down to compose your draft.

An outline can help accomplish this task. Your outline does not need mandatory Roman numerals or a particular form—it just needs to be understandable and functional for you. Make sure you reread the specifics of the assignment at numerous points during the researching and outlining process to stay on track and focused.
Achieving Appropriate Academic Tone

*First person* – is acceptable in APA (but not in all disciplines) and is used primarily in the Discussion section. “We” or “our” is only permissible in the case of multiple authors.

*Second person* – use of “you” or “your” is never acceptable in academic writing

*Third person* – indicates a formal or objective tone appropriate for academic discourse. “It has been found that...” is a passive sentence construction i.e. no agent is performing the action of the sentence. Most of your writing will be in third-person objective.
Use of Tense

Verb tense is used intentionally to let the reader know when you are summarizing the literature or presenting your own conclusions. Research is always analyzed and referred to in the past tense. ("The authors suggested, [indicated, argued, posited, noted, etc.]...")

Write in third-person objective to present your arguments and conclusions ("This suggests..."); the reader follows these tense shifts to determine your purpose.
Literature review

A comprehensive look at studies and scholarly publications concerning a particular topic, it will most likely have a POV especially if the groundwork for another study or a thesis or dissertation.

A way to conceptualize a literature review is to think of a doughnut; the research question is the hole and the literature review is the doughnut. The lit review should show context in a structured manner that supports the thesis/hypothesis. Past studies would certainly be covered; other inclusions may be research that supports a certain theoretical construct or method as well as background statistical data. Go to individual studies to cite them; do not cite specific studies from a literature review.
Strategies for proofreading and revising

- Print out your paper to proofread; this will make it easier to spot spacing and margin errors as well as errant periods and commas. Also it may be easier to read for overall flow between paragraphs.
- Find a partner to help you proofread. They do not need to be an English major, but they should have the ability to be direct with you about your writing.
- Read your paper out loud, alone or to a proofreading partner, slowly and exactly as it appears on the page, to catch awkward or vague sentences, tense shifts, and ambiguous pronoun usage.
- When revising your rough draft, focus on clarity, comprehension, and overall organization. Lower order concerns, e.g. punctuation, should be addressed in the final draft after major revisions have already occurred.
Where to go for APA citation help

The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) is a great website that constantly updates its APA (and MLA) guidelines in accordance with the latest manual revisions.

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/