

Wr 2

Steps for Writing College Research Essays

1. Initial Research Choose several topics
Find at least 5 **academic journal** articles for each topic

2. Choose Topic Choose a topic that matches as many of the below requirements:
 - 1) You have prior knowledge of topic (preferable a lot of knowledge)
 - 2) You are able to find numerous journal articles & books in your library
 - 3) You can understand journal articles & jargon
 - 4) You are able to identify a substantial topic of interestMake sure topic is **narrow** and **clear**
Break topic into parts

3. Research Topic Find research on topic and parts (academic journals & books)

4. Create Abstracts Write down sources in proper format and briefly summarize each

5. Narrow Topic Make sure you have not chosen a topic that is too general or large. If so, narrow your topic accordingly.

6. More Research Make sure to find up to date information
Make sure to find info that is specifically related to your topic

7. Review of Literature

Summarize all your research sources. Write a short essay that combines all your research. Describe your subject and how each specific author relates to your subject. Describe how each author relates to the subject differently or looks at a specific aspect of subject. Describe any debates or disagreements between authors. Detail any points where experts in the field require more information.

8. Thesis Describe your subject. Then talk about the specific point you want to make about your subject. Let your audience know about other authors in the field and what they have to say. Describe how you fit within the works of these other authors – do you agree or disagree with other works? Will you summarize other arguments or say something new?
9. Outline Create an outline. Organize your presentation.
10. Introduction Write your Introduction. Include:
- a) Introduction of Subject
 - b) Review of Literature
 - c) Your Thesis: Why are you writing. What will you say
 - d) Outline the main sections of your essay
11. Body Write the main sections of your essay
12. Conclusion Write your Conclusion. Include:
- a) Revisit your Subject
 - b) Revisit your Thesis
 - c) Revisit the main points of the body
 - d) End with a critical analysis of your thesis and what you have said. Show how you have made a point, proven your point, and then leave your reader with a final thought or question.
13. Revision Get Peer review
Revise your essay yourself
- ***make sure to revise your essay at least 3 times before printing final draft.