

CRITIQUE OF A SCHOLARLY ARTICLE

Reading assignments in Writing Literature Reviews:

- 1) "Analyzing Quantitative Research Literature," pp. 43-53
- 2) "Guidelines on Style, Mechanics, and Language Usage," pp. 99-106

The process of writing an article critique is designed to improve and test your ability to critically analyze an empirical research study. Clearly, the better written an article is, the more likely it is to be accepted by the intended audience; however, research has varying degrees of quality. This assignment will increase your ability to read professional writing, recognize valid research and understand the results, and it will aid you in identifying weaknesses in research and writing. Learning to recognize flaws in grammar and logic will improve your ability to recognize those flaws in your own writing. In addition, the assignment requires you to utilize your skills in using the Internet to locate a scholarly article.

You will write a total of (4) Article Critiques this semester, based on predetermined scholarly, empirical research studies chosen by the 100W instructors. You will be provided with the basic reference information for each article at the appropriate time throughout the semester (at least one week in advance of the due date for each Article Critique), and you will be required to find the article online in the specified database via the MLK Library web site. **Be sure to download the full text PDF version of it.** Once downloaded, read the article carefully, making notes on the strengths and weaknesses of the authors' assertions and the quality of the research. When you feel that you understand the article thoroughly, you are ready to write a critique of the article.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You must submit your Article Critiques to www.turnitin.com before turning them in for grading. Go to www.turnitin.com, and follow the instructions to submit your Article Critique. If required by your instructor, attach a printed copy of the "Originality Report" to a clean copy of your Article Critique when you submit it.

After completing the above stated reading assignments, reviewing the Article Critique handout, reviewing the Article Critique Formatting Example, and thoroughly reading the journal article, write an analysis of your article, paying attention to each of the following requirements. Your critique should be no more than three pages, typed, and double-spaced.

1. Following the Article Critique Formatting Example, format a cover page for each Article Critique (this will be page 1). Your cover page will include an APA style reference for the article, as such, it is not necessary to include a separate reference page at the end of your Article Critique.
2. Use appropriate headings (see Article Critique Handout). The headings should not be underlined, italicized, or bolded; they should, however, be centered.
3. Appropriately address all required sections (see Article Critique Handout).

GRADING:

You will be graded on how closely you follow the APA guidelines and format for an article critique; the clarity and content of your critique; and on your understanding of the article. You will also be graded on correct use of college level writing mechanics. (See scoring guide attached).

JS100W Article Critique Score Sheet

Student Name

***NI = Needs Improvement**

**FORMAT
(LO3)**

Possible Format Scoring:

Excellent	Average	*NI
0.30	0.15	0.075

Weight: 10%

- Appropriate to assignment; followed guidelines and instructions
- Strictly double-spaced (no additional space before or after each line)
- Length as advised
- APA Format (in-text citations and reference)
- Submitted to www.turnitin.com (Originality Report attached if required)

TOTAL

**CONTENT
(LO1; LO2; LO3)**

Possible Content Scoring:

Excellent	Average	*NI
3.00	1.50	0.75

Weight: 50%

- Purpose is clear; thesis section clearly demonstrates an understanding of the author(s) purpose
- Methods section demonstrates clear understanding of how the research was conducted and the appropriateness
- Evidence section demonstrates an understanding of how well the author(s) supported the thesis
- Evaluation section conveys the benefit of the research study and how it will be incorporated into your research
- Demonstrates a clear understanding of the research and insight into the topic; content clearly and directly fulfills all aspects of the assignment

TOTAL

**MECHANICS/STYLE
(LO1; LO3)**

Possible Mechanics/Style Scoring:

Excellent	Average	*NI
1.00	0.50	0.25

Weight: 40%

- Grammar and spelling are at the college level
- Punctuation is effective and used appropriately
- Effective word choices; vocabulary is at the college level
- Appropriate use of verb tenses; active verb tense is used when appropriate
- Sentences are clear and complete; not run-on, confusing, or fragmented
- Little to no reliance on personal pronouns

TOTAL

TOTAL SCORE

Total possible points: 30

Percent of Total: