

Research Paper Step Three: Article Critiques II - IV

Reading assignment: The Criminal Justice Student Writer's Manual, p. 137-143.

Once you have selected the topic you wish to consider for your research project, you need to begin a review of the literature available in that area. This will familiarize you with the studies and research already done, so you will have a more thorough understanding of the issues involved.

Using the reference list which you generated from your literature search, select those articles which you believe will provide the best information for your paper. You should be able to find at least three good sources from this initial list of ten sources. If you cannot, then it is your responsibility to locate additional appropriate articles for this assignment and for your research paper. (Keep in mind that you will have to incorporate data from a *minimum* of four scholarly articles into your research paper.)

You will prepare a two to three page critique for each of the three articles you have selected. Use the format provided in the CJSWM (pp. 140-143). (**Important note: The article reference on the sample title page for the article critique in CJSWM p. 140 is not in APA style; use the format provided, but with an APA style reference.**) Each critique should have a separate title page, indicating at the top which critique it is (Critique Number II, III, IV or V).

IMPORTANT NOTE: You must submit your paper to Turnitin.com before turning it in. Go to www.turnitin.com to submit your paper, using the pass code for this class. Attach the "Originality Report" to a clean copy of your article critique when you submit it.

Using the article critique guidelines from CJSWM pages 137-139, write an analysis of your article, pay special attention to each of the following requirements. Your critique should be no more than three pages, typed, and double-spaced (not including the cover page). Include a copy of the article when you submit your critique.

1. Follow the format provided for your cover sheet, being sure to use correct APA style citation of article
2. In the **Thesis** section of the critique, briefly summarize the article (this would be an abstract of the article) and explain the thesis
3. Discuss the **Methods** used by the author to investigate the topic
4. Examine the **Evidence** presented, and whether their conclusions are well supported
5. In the **Evaluation** portion of the critique, indicate whether or not you will use this article for your paper, and why. You should also make note of key quotations, cases, statistics, or other material from the article which you may want to incorporate into your paper.
6. Use appropriate headings (Thesis, Methods, Evidence, Evaluation)
7. Attach both the "Originality Report" from Turnitin.com and scoring guide

GRADING:

You will be graded on how closely you follow instructions for an article critique, the clarity and content of your critique, your understanding of the article, and on the quality of the article you select. You will also be graded on correct use of grammar, readability, organization and clarity. It is recommended that you download and read the scoring guide for this assignment before you actually write the paper. When you submit your paper, you should put your name on the scoring guide and staple to the back of your paper. (See scoring guide attached and semester schedule for due dates for each critique).

100W Article Critique Scoring Guide

+ = Good job, √ = OK, - = this needs attention

FORMAT

(LO3)

- _____ Appropriate to assignment
- _____ Followed guidelines and instructions
- _____ Double spaced
- _____ Length is as advised
- _____ APA Format (in text citations and title page)
- _____ Turnitin.com Originality Report attached

CONTENT

(LO1; LO2; LO3)

- _____ Purpose is clear
- _____ Thesis section clearly demonstrates an understanding of the article
- _____ Methods section demonstrates clear understanding of how research was conducted and how appropriate the methods were
- _____ Evidence section demonstrates an understanding of how well the author(s) supported their thesis
- _____ Evaluation section clearly demonstrates the benefit of this research and how it will be incorporated into your research paper
- _____ Demonstrates clear understanding of reading and insight into topic
- _____ Content clearly and directly fulfills all aspects of assignment

MECHANICS & STYLE

(LO1; LO3)

- _____ Effective word choices; vocabulary is at college level
- _____ Punctuation is effective and used appropriately
- _____ Sentences are clear and complete; not run-on or confusing
- _____ Spelling is at college level
- _____ Little reliance on personal pronouns
- _____ Appropriate use of verb tenses; active verb tense is used when appropriate
- _____ Grammar appropriate to writing at college level

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: