

# Research Paper Overview

Before you begin your research, familiarize yourself with the requirements listed below to ensure you are progressing in the right direction.

## All research papers must:

- be written in MLA format
- be 1200 – 1800 words in length (Does not include headings, title, or Works Cited page.)
- incorporate information from 4 credible sources [see additional source information below]
- be submitted for a grade in your English 12 class
- be perfect in formatting of paper and Works Cited page to get credit for those elements

## Your sources MUST include:

- at least 3 vetted sources from library databases
- at least 1 primary source (which can also serve as a vetted source)

**Note: All sources must be properly credited (both in-text and on a Works Cited page) in order to receive credit. If your sources are not properly credited, it is considered plagiarism, and you will receive a score of “0”.**

## Evaluation for proficiency requires:

- 70% or better on the final draft
- Submission of all previous drafts with each evaluation (initial and any rewrites)  
*Note: It is the student's responsibility to hold onto previous drafts of their paper. Resubmissions without these drafts will not be evaluated.*
- In addition to being a senior project and graduation requirement, your paper will also receive a grade in your English class. English teachers will read and evaluate the final draft and a single revision to determine a paper's proficiency. Any papers *not submitted* by the required dates or *not deemed proficient* after the first revision, will be subject to committee review.

For more specific information on how proficiency is determined, see **Senior Research Paper Rubric and Senior Research Paper Score Guide**.

For more specific information on the research paper timeline and associated due dates, see **Senior Project Criteria and Dates**