

Departmental Policy for ELC Research Alternative (Research Paper Option)

Approved 11/1/2013

- 1) The alternative assignment will require a 1-2 page review (at least 1 page and no more than 2 pages) of an article in *Current Directions in Psychological Science*.
- 2) Each paper will be worth 1 ELC.
- 3) Papers will be due the last class of the penultimate week of the semester.
- 4) A small group of graduate students will grade the papers and upload the information on SONA, which instructors can access in the same manner as information for research participation.
- 5) Information for students about the Research Paper Option (attached) will be posted on our webpage and instructors can provide that link in their syllabi and PIs in their informed consent statements.
- 6) Each semester, a different year of *Current Directions in Psychological Science* will be selected from which students can choose articles.
- 7) Rotating the year and grading by graduate students should provide check on plagiarism.
- 8) Faculty members offering ELCs must include the Research Paper Option, and they may include other alternatives (e.g., writing a summary of a campus lecture). Instructors will be responsible for grading alternatives other than the Research Paper Option.

Instructions for Students for Completing the ELC Readings Option

Students choosing the Readings Option must read an article about psychological research and then write a 1-2 page summary of the article. **Each summary will equal one (1) ELC.**

Papers are due on the following dates:

For classes that meet on Monday and Wednesday – **November 15, 2021**

For classes that meet on Tuesday and Thursday – **November 16, 2021**

For classes that meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday – **November 15, 2021**

Submitting your papers:

Your article summaries should be turned in to the instructor teaching the class for which you have the ELC requirement. Your instructor will determine how these summaries will be turned in to him or her (e.g., electronically via email, AsUlearn, or turnitin, or via printed copy).

You must select your article from the following editions *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, a journal that contains articles from a wide variety of research areas in psychology. The articles in this journal are not technical; therefore, they are a good introduction to the research literature for undergraduate students in psychology. The issues from *Current Directions in Psychological Science* are:

Volume 28, Issue 1 (February 2019)

Volume 28, Issue 2 (April 2019)

Volume 28, Issue 3 (June 2019)

Volume 28, Issue 4 (August 2019)

Volume 28, Issue 5 (October 2019)

Volume 28, Issue 6 (December 2019)

For each article you are required to prepare a brief (1- 2 page) **typewritten** paper summarizing its contents. The first part of each paper should summarize the research in the article and the nature of its findings/conclusions. **The second part of each paper should be your reaction to the article: your own ideas about the research and its implications. If you omit this second part, your summaries will not pass.**

To find and read these articles, you should go to the Library Home Page <http://library.appstate.edu/> and type in *Current Directions in Psychological Science* in the **APPsearch** box. Then click on **View Option to Read Full-Text Online (ASU only)** under the search result "*Current Directions in Psychological Science (electronic resource)*." This should be the first search term in the list of results. Then click on "**Sage Premier All Access Collection 02/01/1999 – present**" from the list of options on the upper left. Then, under the heading **Browse By Year**, click on the **“+” sign** next to **2019**, and then click on the **“+” sign** next to **Volume 28**. You will then be able to choose an issue from the above list to peruse articles.

Note: We do not assume the responsibility of teaching you how to use the library's resources, including the use of electronic journals. It is your responsibility to learn to use the library's electronic journal system.

Formatting: Papers must be formatted as described below:

You must double space, use no larger than 1 inch margins, and use Times New Roman 12 point font.

At the top of each paper, you must include the following heading information: **Your first and last name, your instructor's name, your section number, the title of the article you are summarizing, the author(s) of the article, and the volume and issue number of the journal.** This heading information must be single spaced.

The text of the summary, not including any heading information at the top, must be longer than 1 page, and cannot be longer than 2 pages. You do not need a "works cited" or "references" page. You are not allowed to include direct quotes in these papers; the summaries should be written in your own words so that it's clear you have understood the information in the articles. While one or two grammatical or spelling errors will not be a problem, excessive errors will cause us to fail your papers. As with all ELC assignments, the papers are graded on a pass/fail basis. Papers that are hand written or that are illegible due to the ink running out on the printer or other reasons will fail (if you are not submitting your paper electronically).

Plagiarism: Papers that are plagiarized will receive a failing grade. Plagiarism includes 1) using sentences in your summary that are identical, or nearly identical, to sentences in the article, and (2) copying the work of other students, from the present or past semesters.

Summary of Paper Requirements:

1. Correct formatting (1 inch margins, 12 font Times New Roman 12 font, double spaced)
2. Heading information (first and last name, psychology section and instructor, volume and issue number of journal article, title and author of article)
3. Heading information single (not double) spaced
4. Must be at least 1 page (not including heading info) and no more than 2 pages
5. Must include a personal reaction to the paper/findings
6. Summary of article with no direct quotations and no plagiarism