

## **Handout: The Research Paper and Final Presentation**

Now that you have all of the information from your expert sources and you have personally investigated your question, it's time to write your research paper. Think back to your mentor text: what was appealing about that writer's style? How did that writer include their personal research as well as their expert sources? In what point of view (POV) did that author write? Keep these questions in mind as you craft your own research paper.

### **The Research Paper**

In your paper, include all of the following information in the listed order. Make sure that you always use in-text citations for everything you summarize, paraphrase, and quote, and include full citations at the end for every source you consulted during your research process.

- Your premise and argument in the first paragraph.
- An explanation of all relevant facts and statistics from expert sources related to the question you are researching.
- An explanation of any personal investigation (surveys, interviews, stunt journalism) that you conducted.
- An explanation of your findings and conclusion.
- A one-page first person reflection piece at the end, detailing how this research experience was for you.
- in-text citations within the paper. You must correctly cite every bit of information you learned from your research.
- A works cited at the end, with full citations of any sources you cited in your paper.

### **The Final Presentation**

This should be a short presentation (a few minutes, max) of your research findings for the class. Make sure that you that present the information to us. (Do not read to us off your slides.) Remember, your slides are a guide. They should contain bullet points, not paragraphs, and be easy to read from a distance. There should also be a single key image on each information slide.

Your presentation should be 6-10 slides long and include the following:

- A title slide
- What was your research question? (If it changed, address this)
- What was your hypothesis?
- What information did you learn from your expert source research?
- What personal investigation (surveys, interviews, stunt journalism) did you conduct and what were the results?
- What did you learn from your entire study?