

Introduce the topic.

Present concepts and theories relevant to the topic.

Define key terms.

Present basic information gained by past research on the topic.

Discuss experimental procedures involved in gaining information on the topic.

Discuss possible points of controversy which exist or changes in thinking as newly gained information has forced researchers to modify and rethink past ideas.

Present past and current research work on the topic.

The main body of the paper can be organized as you feel is appropriate. You can use:

An historical approach,

Arrange your discussion by ideas and concepts,

Present basic theory with supporting research results

Focus on controversy and dissent associated with competing ideas.

How you write the paper depends largely on your perspective of the topic. If you have any questions, come and see me so we can discuss your ideas before you begin writing.

When researching information for the Body of the paper, you should use books which review the topic, governmental publications if appropriate, and professional journals which provide research results, both past and present, central to the topic discussed.

The Summary or Conclusions should briefly restate the major points of the Body of the paper and not present any new information. It should not be more than two paragraphs in length. No references should be cited in the Summary. The Summary is in a sense the equivalent of the abstract of a research paper.

Reports and presentations will be graded on content (as outlined above), style, and ability to use the English language at an appropriate level, with content as the major criterion. Failure to complete both the presentation and the written paper in a satisfactory manner will result in a grade of "U" for the course.

Course Grade = 60% written paper + 40% oral presentation

: The actual presentation must last at least 25 minutes with five minutes of questions at the end. For the oral presentation, a copy of the PowerPoint presentation must be e-mailed to dbehcler@valdosta.edu one week prior to the date of the presentation to allow time for editing and computer compatibility checks. The reports must be based on a minimum of fifteen references, at least ten of which must be from the primary literature (Research articles from recognized scientific journals). Textbooks may be used for background information in the introduction, but do not count as part of the required fifteen references. Websites may only be used as references for figures, maps, diagrams, tables and data sources such as Palmer Drought Indices that are located at science based web sites such as the US Geological Survey, US Fish and Wildlife, etc. All references, including textbooks, must be cited where appropriate in the paper and listed in alphabetical order in a "Literature Cited" section at the end of the written paper using the Cite function, APA style as found in Google Scholar.

Example

through interlibrary loan or get them via JSTOR or GoogleScholar. You should start your research early—like now. See the class handout for proper referencing and siting of references in the text and the reference section.

— CRAYFISH BIOLOGY AND BIOSPELEOLOGY

Aquaculture of Crayfish	Crayfish Sensory Systems
The Biology of Subterranean Salamanders	History of Biospeleology
Crayfish Physiology	Crayfish Behavior
Microbiology of Caves: Bacteria and Fungi	The Biology of Subterranean Insects
The Use of Caves by Bats	Crayfish and their Role in Food Webs
The Biology of Subterranean Amphipods	Crayfish Habitat Use
Crayfish Endocrinology	Cave Structure and their Associated Ecosystems
The Biology of Subterranean Arachnids	Crayfish Diseases and Maladies
The Biology of Subterranean Millipedes	The Biology of Subterranean Isopods
Biology of Subterranean Crayfish	The Genetics of Subterranean Organisms
Review of the Life History of Crayfish	Crayfish as Alien Species
Crayfish Neurobiology	The Biology of Subterranean Fishes
Biology and Distribution of Cave Crickets	Regressive Evolution in Cave Organisms
Crayfish Systematics	Role of Bat Guano in Cave Communities

18 August 2014—first class meeting in Room 2014.

1 September 2014—submit a list of 12 possible references by via e-mail with the references written in the format above. If you are having trouble locating references, see me and I will help you get started.

15 September 2014—submit outlines of your paper and oral presentation by e-mail.

13 October to 1 December 2014—attend all student presentations.

Attend presentations by professional scientist in Powell Hall auditorium and sign in on attendance sheet at the end of the seminar.

: Grades will be neither posted nor given out over the telephone or by e-mail.

: Students requiring _____ because of disability should discuss their needs with me as soon as possible. Those needing accommodations who are not registered with the Access Office which can be visited 1115 Nevins Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348 (tty).

: _____—the written paper must be in your own words and written solely by you. Therefore, all written materials will be examined for plagiarism. If you wish you may quote from publications, but you must acknowledge your sources by citations and when quoting a paper, place the quotes in parentheses. For additional information go to the following web site:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml>

If an individual is caught plagiarizing a source of information, they will be given a grade of "U" for the course and a file with the office of the dean of students. To test for plagiarism, known sources of literature will be examined for copies that match in part or in total the papers you must submit.

--The best times to see me are usually Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 4 pm. My class schedule is as follows during the week and when in class am not available for consultation:

Monday 11am - 12pm, 5 - 7 pm Lecture
Tuesday Open except for occasional field work
Wednesday 11am - 12pm
Thursday 4 - 5 pm Science Seminar, 5 - 7 pm Lecture
Friday 11 - 3 pm, lecture and lab