

PSY 445 Paper Guidelines Fall 2023

For the paper, I want you to select a specialty area of applied psychology (for instance, but not limited to, neuropsychology, child clinical psychology, sport psychology, health psychology, forensic psychology, and correctional psychology). There are areas that are not allowed for this paper: school psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, and social work.

For your paper, I want you to discuss each of the following topics as they relate to your specialty area. These topics should be their own headings.

Introductory paragraph. Introduce the specialty area you plan on covering. You could provide some color or background information as to why you selected this topic.

Job Analysis. What do people who work in this specialty area do on a day-to-day basis? Who are their clients? In what setting do they work? What sort of training is needed to be qualified to work in this specialty area? What is the outlook for this area in the future? Will there be jobs? What are typical salary ranges for people in this area?

Literature Review. Complete a literature search and find three peer-reviewed articles that describe research in the specialty area. These articles must be published within the last 15 years. Describe each study in detail, including the rationale for the study, the research hypotheses, the methodology used to evaluate the research hypotheses, the results of the study, and the implications of the results. Provide a critique of the study, including strengths and weaknesses of the study. Discuss the importance of the research findings from the article.

Personal Evaluation. What do you believe are the strengths and weaknesses of the area? Would you want to be employed in this area? Why or why not? What did you learn from your experience? Anything else you would like to discuss?

Concluding paragraph. Be sure to end with a concluding paragraph; do not simply trail off in your discussion. In this paragraph, you leave your readers with your take-home message.

The paper should be no less than eight (8) pages and no more than ten (10) pages in length. You should use the modified APA style we use for class and include a Title Page and a Reference section, which do not count in the total number of pages. Be sure to reference all you can. There should be at least seven (7) references, at least four (4) of which should be from peer reviewed journals.

Grading for the paper includes an evaluation of how well you address each of the above content areas, how well you cite and use references, and the holistic appearance (including use of APA style) of your paper.

When writing, be sure to paraphrase rather than quote. All direct quotations will be penalized at 0.1 points per quotation.

Your name should not appear anywhere on the document. Use the Identity Code Sheet below and attach it at the end of the document.

The Rough Draft of the paper is due October 20, 2023. The Final Draft is due November 24, 2023. The paper will be worth a total of 60 points.

Create an Identity Code:

Give me a code that is at least 5 digits in length. There should be both letters and numbers in this code. (I reserve the right to ask people to change their codes if necessary.)

Write your Identity Code here: _____

Attach this sheet to the back of your rough draft and paper. Your name should not appear anywhere else in these documents.

____ Please post my grade by the Identity Code

____ Do not post my grade by the Identity Code

Printed Name

Date

Signature

WKU ID Number