

Excellence in Writing-High School Research Paper Syllabus

Spring 2010

January 27—Submit three possible subjects or ideas for your research paper
Discuss ways to break down subject into smaller topics using brainstorming
and encyclopedia article

Thesis statement

HW: Read encyclopedia article about your subject

Bring copy of encyclopedia article about your subject to class

Begin reading additional sources about your subject

Begin ideas for a thesis

February 3 Taking notes

Fused outline/Research example

HW: Finish thesis and outline

Read much on your research subject

Bring one to three internet articles and three books to class

Find picture for cover page (document)

February 10 Documentation—Parenthetical References and Works Cited

Quotations

Make Works Cited note cards in class

HW: Research first topic of paper (do outline and fused outline)

Type Works Cited page

February 17 Transitions

Pictures

Dual/Triple verbs, adverbs, or adjectives

HW: Write first topic of paper

Find picture for cover page of paper (include documentation)

February 24 Peer Editing

Sentence Openers: “ing” and VSS (very short sentences)

HW: Research second topic of paper

Make corrections on Works Cited page

March 3 Discuss ACT writing prompts and how to approach
Metaphors and Similes
HW: Write second topic of paper
Make corrections/revisions on first topic

March 10 Peer Editing
Write Sample Essay for ACT writing prompt in class
HW: Research third topic of paper

March 17 Spring Break—no class

March 24 Write Sample Essay for ACT writing prompt or college scholarship
application in class
HW: Write third topic of paper
Make corrections/revisions on second topic

March 31 Peer Editing
Introduction and Conclusion
Revising
Final Copy Guidelines
HW: Reread and edit body of paper
Write Introduction and Conclusion
Finish paper

April 7 Peer Editing
Revising
Final Copy Guidelines
HW: Prepare for Presentation

April 14 Presentations
HW: Make final corrections

April 21 Turn in final copy of research paper
Finish presentations
Celebration