

## UNST 121-123: Forbidden Knowledge

## The Research Paper

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### General Requirements for Research Paper:

You will be writing a research paper with the following characteristics:

1. **10-15 pages**, *not including* title page and Works Cited page
2. separate **title page**  
includes **thesis statement**; **well-organized body** that defines important terms, acknowledges com points of view, and substantiates thesis; **conclusion** that connects firmly to the intro, rephrases im
1. issues, and clinches the main argument
4. both **qualitative** and **quantitative** components (e.g., tables, graphs, summary statistics)
5. written in **MLA format**, with few or no serious errors in diction, grammar, punctuation, format, s etc.
6. substantiation of all information and arguments through **MLA citation** techniques
7. **MLA Works Cited page** including *at least* five scholarly works (books or articles) and, in additic more than *three* nonscholarly works (e.g., magazines articles, web sites). "No more than" may als "zero." "At least five" means "five or more."
8. The paper must connect with the theme of this course in one way or another and should be related the topical areas we have been or will be studying. See [Forming the Research Question](#) and [Fro Thesis](#) (a pdf file) for more information.

### Process:

You will be producing this paper over the course of two terms. This term we will focus on the preliminary steps.

[Click here to see an schematic that displays the research process graphically.](#)

You will engage in a peer-editing process for each phase; therefore, what you turn in to Dr. Bianco should be virtually flawless :-)

Click on a link to be taken to a corresponding web site. If a link is not hot or doesn't work, that resource is not yet available.

1. [identifying an area of interest and formulating a research question](#)
2. [writing a thesis \(pdf file\)](#)
3. choosing a methodology
4. concept paper (a draft proposal)
5. annotated bibliography (essentially an annotated list of the works you *will* read, not necessarily a list of works you *have* read)
6. final draft proposal (this will include your thesis, statement of research question, definition of

terms, explanation of methodology, annotated bibliography; this final product will be no more than 5 pages long and will be the launching pad for your actual research and writing next term)

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**The following resources may be useful to you:**

*Hodges' Harbrace Handbook*, 15th edition (in the following order)

- Ch. 35: Reading and Thinking Critically
- Ch. 37: Finding Sources
- Ch. 38: Evaluating Sources
- Ch. 32: Planning and Drafting Essays
- Ch. 33: Writing Arguments
- Ch. 39: Using Sources Responsibly
- Ch. 40: Citing Sources and Submitting Final Papers

[\*Dr. Bianco's Writing Checklist\*](#)

[Diana Hacker's A Writer's Reference](#)

- Research Exercises
  - Researching (general)
  - MLA (all)

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Questions? [Contact Dr. Bianco](#), anytime!