

# Academic Research Article Portfolio

UWP1Y / Winter 2022

**\*This assignment prompt is available in an alternative format**

## Purpose

The Academic Research Article Portfolio connects to the UWP1 learning outcomes of learning academic writing conventions, composing for inquiry and critical thinking, and conducting scholarly research.

The purpose of this project is to come up with a research question or questions and conduct primary and secondary research about a **reading or writing topic** that interests you in order to practice scholarly research and writing. Then you'll write an academic research article aimed at publication in the UC Davis First-Year Composition online journal of student writing, *Readings about Writing*. As a class we'll vote for five articles to publish in the journal.

## Genre

Scholarly research articles are a common genre in academic writing in every field. Academic researchers formulate **research questions** that don't have a simple right or wrong answer, and they use their research to explore their research questions and make arguments about their research topics.

Readers expect scholarly articles to engage in conversation with the research that's been done on the topic, and this means **citing and integrating peer reviewed academic sources**. Citing only a few related research studies is never enough to show that you've deeply engaged with your topic as a scholar. You can follow the conventions of the articles that have been published in *Readings about Writing* when deciding how many sources you should cite.



## EXAMPLE OF TYPES OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the most effective strategies for improving in (an area of reading or writing that the student wants to improve in)?
- What are the most important genres (types of writing) in (the student's major) and what do students who are new to the major need to know to succeed in writing those genres?
- How do the workers at (a kind of company or organization the student wants to work for in the future) communicate in reading and writing and how can a new person to the community succeed as a writer and communicator?

## Alternative Genres

You may choose to write your academic research in a different genre than an article if you'd like. For example, a website, a blog, a podcast, a video. I will talk with you about composing in an alternative genre if you decide for this option.

## Format

Research articles have different formats depending on the discipline, but academic research articles in every field tend to use some basic formatting conventions: there's often an abstract at the beginning that summarizes the article, there's usually an introduction and discussion of related research, a discussion of research methods, and a discussion of the results and significance of the research. Different sections of an academic research article are usually divided by headings. Choose a **citation format** (APA, MLA, etc.) that is most appropriate for your topic. Everyone will write an article of around **2,000 words**.

## Assessment

The Academic Research Article Portfolio is one of the categories of the grading contract. To get an "A" in that category, the portfolio will need to meet the guidelines for "Proficient" in the **UWP1Y Portfolio Rubric**. Portfolios that meet the guidelines for "Advanced" in the UWP1Y Portfolio Rubric will result in a "+" being added to a student's final grade. This portfolio rubric is used by ALL UWP1 sections. The UWP1Y Portfolio Rubric is available in the first module of the class Canvas site.

**You'll compile your writing in a portfolio of work and submit six attachments to the Academic Research Article Portfolio assignment submission link on Canvas:**

1. The final draft of your Academic Research Article
2. Peer response workshop #1 draft
3. Teacher feedback #1 draft
4. Peer response workshop #2 draft
5. Teacher feedback #2 draft
6. Portfolio Reflection (separate prompt in Canvas)

The six attachments listed above must be uploaded in the Academic Research Article Portfolio assignment link in Canvas before **Saturday, 3/19**. Please upload them as Word or RTF files.

## Process and Timeline

You'll research and draft your article in stages: a research proposal, two peer response workshop drafts, two revised drafts for my feedback, and a final draft. Here is the drafting schedule:

**Tuesday, 2/1:** Research Article Proposal due to Canvas for the Week 4 Virtual Class Activity

**Tuesday, 2/22:** Research article rough draft due to Canvas for peer response workshop #1 (at least 800 words).

**Tuesday, 3/1:** Revised research article draft due to Canvas for teacher feedback #1 (at least 1,200 words).

**Tuesday, 3/8:** Research article revised draft due to Canvas for peer response workshop #2 (at least 1,500 words).

**Tuesday, 3/15:** Research article revised draft due to Canvas for teacher feedback #2 (around 2,000 words).

**Friday, 3/18:** Final draft of the portfolio (all six attachments) due to the Academic Research Article Portfolio assignment link in Canvas before Saturday.

