

PSY 335: Paper - Literature Review

Your task is to write a mini-literature review on a topic or theory that is relevant and important to positive psychology / the science of well-being. This assignment is designed to enhance your understanding of a topic or theory of your choice, in addition to providing you with an opportunity to enhance your literature review, written communication, and formatting skills. It is also an opportunity to exercise both critical and creative thinking. This paper is worth 30% of the total course mark. Due date is indicated on the course syllabus and website.

TOPIC CHOICE:

Choose a topic of your choice that is relevant to Positive Psychology / the science of well-being. While not required, *it is strongly recommended* that you check-in with me (your professor) regarding your choice of topic for this assignment.

CRITERIA

- You must ground your paper in a theoretical framework.
- A minimum of 6 citations / references is required consisting of academic research papers published in peer-reviewed non-predatory journals from at least 4 different authors published from 2017 onwards.
 - *Note: You will need to cite earlier papers to provide background and context in the introduction to your paper.*
 - *Note: Papers you cite must be in addition to any papers you cite which are listed in the Recommended Reading list for the course.*
- Between 6 and 10 pages, not including cover page or reference list.

FORMATTING

- Academic formal writing style.
- APA 7th formatting for the paper including body of the paper, headings, header, citations, Reference list, double-spaced with no extra spaces between paragraphs, 1" margins.
- Use the following formatting for font (which may be slightly different than specified in APA 7th):
 - 12-point font
 - Times New Roman
- An abstract is not required
- Following this format for your cover page:
 - Your Name | Your Student ID
 - Title of Your Paper
 - Course Name and Section #
 - Date Submitted

... criteria and details continued on next page ...

SECTIONS REQUIRED

- Introduction (which does not need a header as per APA 7th):
 - why this topic and/or theory is relevant and important to Positive Psychology
- Theoretical Framework:
 - include the theoretical framework (or frameworks) upon which research into this topic is grounded. (You can also just focus a particular theory.)
- Paper body divided into appropriate sections with appropriate headers:
 - a review of the literature – note criteria listed above – describing results from empirical studies and overall where this area of research stands.
- Practical Applications:
 - Include a discussion of applied applications arising from this research.
 - Specify to what population this refers to (e.g., general population, clinical, age-groups).
 - Include at least one *original* practical application or intervention, that is, a practical application or intervention that you have designed.
 - Include at least one empirically validated application or intervention.
- Limitations:
 - Discuss limitations of the current research (e.g., methodology, samples) and of practical applications and interventions (from current research and your original suggestion).
- Possible Negative Outcomes:
 - Address any possible negative outcomes that may arise from the applications and interventions. These can come from research or you can posit these yourself.
- Future Directions and Conclusion
 - Include recommended future directions for research in this topic area.
 - An overall conclusion which ties back in to your introduction.

LATE SUBMISSIONS

As noted on the syllabus, the paper is due to be handed in to me (your prof) in person at the beginning of class on Thursday, December 1.

Late submissions (up to end of day Thursday, December 8th will incur a 5% per day penalty. Papers submitted after this date will not be accepted and will receive a grade of 0%.

... see next page for detailed grading rubric ...

GRADING CRITERIA / GRADING SHEET

Student name: _____ **Student ID:** _____

ITEM	points deducted
.25% deducted for each formatting error as per criteria for cover sheet and paper	
5% deducted if criteria not met for minimum of 6 academic research papers published in peer-reviewed non-predatory journals from at least 4 different authors published from 2017 onwards	
2% deducted if criteria not met for body of paper from minimum 6 to maximum 10 pages (does not include cover sheet or references)	
.25% deducted for each APA formatting error up to a maximum of 2% (3 'free' errors permitted; repeated penalty will not be given for the the same error if made consistently throughout the paper)	
Total Marks DEDUCTED	

ITEM	WORTH	letter grade*	points earned as per below*
Language and Style: writing overall—spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, grammar, word choices	15%		
Flow, Organization, Coherence: Clear, coherent flow of ideas throughout the paper	15%		
For each section, marks are for clarity, comprehensiveness, and accuracy			
Introduction	7%		
Theoretical Framework	3%		
Body of Paper - Review of Research	45%		
Practical Applications	7%		
Limitations	3%		
Possible Negative Outcomes	2%		
Future Directions & Conclusion	3%		
points EARNED			
marks deducted from above			
TOTAL POINTS:			
PAPER GRADE LETTER:			
PAPER GRADE PERCENTAGE**:			

*letter grade points for this paper: A+ = 8 | A = 7 | A- = 6 | B+ = 5 | B = 4 | B- = 3 | C+ = 2 | C = 1

** (as per Psychology Dept grading policy)