

CRJU 0307 Research Paper

The purpose of this assignment is to help you engage in a more in-depth examination of a selected modern issue in law enforcement. You will compile, review, and assess the literature on your topic of choice. You will then present and discuss this information in your paper to demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively and think critically about issues in policing.

In this paper, you will first identify a contemporary issue affecting modern policing. Then, you will summarize the issue, the prevalent research, and the importance and significance of this topic to the policing profession. Think of your audience as your classmates. In other words, you can assume that your reader has a basic understanding of the history of policing and modern functions of the police.

Steps to Complete

1. Submit your paper topic on Plato by 5/24 11:59 PM. You will answer:
 - a. What is your research paper question?*(
(Ex: How does police department diversity impact citizen perceptions of the police?))
 - b. Why is this topic important?
2. Find your academic sources.
 - a. The best place to search for academic sources is on lib.westfield.ma.edu
 - b. The academic sources you find in the library database will be the primary sources on which you will rely.
3. Supplement your academic sources.
 - a. Fill in the blanks by conducting general online searches for information in places like news articles.
4. Write your paper.
5. Ensure that your sources are cited throughout your paper, and ensure that all of your sources are listed on your reference page.
6. Submit your paper on Plato by 6/21 11:59 PM.

*If you have a general direction or area of interest, but you're having trouble formulating this into an actual question, feel free to e-mail me to discuss.

Grading Rubric

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	POINTS POSSIBLE
Topic Overview	Present an overview/ summary of your chosen topic. Introduce the questions you will be answering and explain the importance of the topic. This introduction should provide direction for your paper.	15
Discussion	Provide complete and thorough information that answers your research question. Assess your sources and the information you provide critically.	40
Conclusion	Summarize the information you presented. Discuss the implications of your topic research and discussion for law enforcement.	20
Sources	Cite and reference at least three <u>academic sources</u> to provide information. Include a reference page at the end of your paper. You may use MLA or APA format.	10
Grammar/Spelling/ Organization	Check spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. Ensure that your paper is structured in a thoughtful and organized way. You do not need to write your paper in the same order as the prompt questions.	10
Paper Topic	Paper topic submitted by 5/24	5

*Essays must be 10-12 pages, double-spaced, and typed in 12 pt. font. All papers must be submitted via Plato in .doc/.docx format by **June 21, 2020 at 11:59 PM.**