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# Final Project Guidelines and Rubric



## PSY 322 Final Project Guidelines and Rubric

### Overview

The final project for this course is the creation of a **research paper**. The purpose of this assignment is for you to explore aspects of adolescent development. The final product represents an authentic demonstration of competency because students will critically evaluate adolescent development. The project is divided into **five milestones** which will be submitted at various points throughout the course to scaffold learning. Milestones will be submitted in **Modules Two, Three, Five, Six, and Seven**.

### Guidelines

The research paper should include the following elements:

1. Research Topic
  - You will submit your research topic from the list below and explain why you find the topic relevant to adolescent development.
    - i. The major developmental theories for children and adolescents
    - ii. Impact of current trends on developing children and adolescents
    - iii. Impact of geography in the sequence of development
    - iv. Physical development from childhood through adolescence
    - v. Cognitive development from childhood through adolescence
    - vi. Social and personality development from childhood through adolescence
    - vii. Emotion and language in varied contexts (e.g., home, school, peers)
    - viii. Age-appropriate milestones and anomalies
2. Annotated Bibliography
  - A list of references in APA format that includes all sources cited in the paper
3. Literature Review
  - Using the [Shapiro Library](#) database, find two journal articles related to your selected topic area. Your textbook, Wikipedia, and course materials are not acceptable. The journal articles must be from peer-reviewed, scholarly journals.

#### 4. Research Paper Draft

- You will submit a draft of your research paper. The draft should include most of the criteria necessary for the final research

#### 5. Final Research Paper

The paper should adhere to the following guidelines:

- The length of the paper should be 8–10 double-spaced pages (not including the title and reference pages).
- The main sections of the paper should be the following:
  - Title page
  - Introduction
  - Literature review
  - Conclusion
  - Reference page(s)
- The paper must use proper APA style for citing sources and references.
- Discussion and conclusions: the difference between a great research paper and a marginal one is the depth and originality you bring together what you learned from the literature review (as well as throughout the course) in your concluding remarks section should be 1–2 pages in length.

## Milestones

### Milestone One: Research Topic

In **Task 2-1**, you will submit your **research topic**. The format should be a paragraph submitted via the discussion topic. **This milestone will be graded using the Final Project Rubric.** Your grade will be based upon how you collaborate effectively with your peers. Feedback should be applied to the final submission.

### Milestone Two: Annotated Bibliography

In **Task 3-3**, you will submit your **annotated bibliography**. The format should be a Word document that includes a list of sources with a paragraph for each source. It must contain two sources and it must be formatted in APA style. **This milestone is graded using the Annotated Bibliography Rubric.** Feedback should be applied to the final submission.

### Milestone Three: Literature Review

In **Task 5-3**, you will submit your **literature review**. The format should be a Word document. **This milestone is graded using the Literature Review Rubric.** Feedback should be applied to the final submission.

### Milestone Four: Rough Draft

In **Task 6-3**, you will submit a **research paper rough draft**. The format should be a Word document. **This milestone will be graded using the Final Project Rubric.** Feedback should be applied to the final submission.

### Milestone Five: Final Paper Submission

In **Task 7-2**, you will submit your **research paper**. It should be a complete, polished artifact containing **all** of the main elements of a research paper. **This milestone will be graded using the Final Project Rubric.** Feedback should be applied throughout the course.

## What to Submit

Written components of projects must follow these formatting guidelines when applicable: double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, and a margin of 1 inch on all sides.

written components of projects must follow these formatting guidelines when applicable. Double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman citations. Page length: 8–10 pages required, not including a cover page and references.

## Final Project Rubric

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Exemplary (100%)</b>	<b>Proficient (85%)</b>	<b>Needs Improvement (55%)</b>
<b>Concepts Theories and Empirical Findings</b>	Communicates in depth about major concepts, theories, and empirical findings in adolescent developmental psychology	Communicates about major concepts, theories, and empirical findings in adolescent developmental psychology	Sometimes communicates about major concepts, theories and empirical findings in adolescent developmental psychology
<b>Developmental Issues and Current Relevancy</b>	Communicates in depth about several adolescent developmental issues of current relevance and applies them to the world around us	Communicates about several adolescent developmental issues of current relevance and applies them to the world around us	Sometimes communicates about several adolescent developmental issues of current relevance and applies them to the world around us
<b>Research Methods and Ethical Guidelines</b>	Consistently explains the characteristics of the science of developmental psychology, various research methods used by developmental psychologists, and the ethical guidelines used by adolescent developmental psychologists	Explains the characteristics of the science of developmental psychology, various research methods used by developmental psychologists, and the ethical guidelines used by adolescent developmental psychologists	Sometimes explains the characteristics of the science of developmental psychology, various research methods used by developmental psychologists, and the ethical guidelines used by adolescent developmental psychologists
<b>Critical Thinking</b>	Demonstrates well-developed ability in critical, scientific thinking through written work	Demonstrates ability in critical, scientific thinking through written work	Sometimes demonstrates ability in critical, scientific thinking through written work
<b>Research</b>	Incorporates two or more scholarly resources effectively that reflect depth and breadth of research	Incorporates at least two scholarly resources effectively that reflect depth and breadth of research	Incorporates one scholarly resource that reflects depth and breadth of research
<b>Articulation of Response</b>	No errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	Minor errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations	Some errors related to organization, grammar and style, and citations



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