



Research Paper Requirements for MGMT 411: Logistics Management for Aviation/Aerospace

Introduction Section (5% of the Course Grade)

Once your choices (company and issue) have been approved by the instructor, research the background information on the company and the significance of the issue. This information should be the basis of the first section, the Introduction. Provide **relevant background and significance**. For the background, what does the company produce or what service does it provide, how is the company situated in the industry, and what does its competition look like? For the issue, provide rationale explaining why the issue is important. What are the ramifications of ignoring the issue? Provide examples of what has happened to the company or other companies when the issue was not addressed adequately. Conclude with a well-written **problem statement**. This section of your paper should be **one to two pages long**. You must **submit it for evaluation by the end of the Module 5 week**. A grade deduction may be applied for a late submission.

The **MGMT-UG Research Paper Rubric** will be used to evaluate this submission. However, for the “Answers to Research Questions” criterion, only the connections among ideas, insight, and original thinking will be evaluated, because an answer to the research question will not be developed (proposed) at this point.

Literature Review Section (5% of the Course Grade)

Conduct a more thorough investigation of the literature, abstracting key information from each piece of relevant literature you find. This information is the basis of the second section, called the Literature Review, in which you synthesize the evidence and claims of others (experts). Include (cite and reference) a minimum of five quality sources, preferably peer-reviewed (juried) articles, although it is understood that information on companies will come from secondary literature (company website, industry trade magazines, etc.). If these sources focus on individual companies and how they have handled the particular issue, consider using the contrast and compare writing strategy by discussing similarities and differences point by counterpoint. What strategies have been employed in addressing the issue of interest? Present the results each company has had in addressing the issue. Do not make any personal claims (opinions) in this section of your paper. This section of your paper should be from **three to four pages long** and must be **submitted for evaluation by the end of the Module 6 week**. The instructor may apply a grade deduction for a late submission.

The **MGMT-UG Research Paper Rubric** will be used to evaluate this submission. However, for the “Answers to Research Questions” criterion, only the connections among ideas, insight, and original thinking will be evaluated, because an answer to the research question will not be proposed or discussed at this point.

Before you start writing the literature review in earnest, review the research and writing

guidance in the **Resources** folder. Then visit the **EAGLET Writing Lab** [ERNIE login is required] where you will find guidance on everything from grammar basics to scholarly writing. If you have difficulty or experience a writing block, post your issues and questions to the *Research Paper Forum* so your peers and instructor can provide some helpful suggestions. A quality deliverable depends on incrementally developing, proofreading, and revising your work; so, don't delay asking for help as soon as it is needed! Keep in mind that the instructor reserves the right to apply a grade deduction for any late submissions.

Discussion Section

The third section is the Discussion. This is where you **tie the information presented in your review to your analysis of the issue as it relates to your chosen company**. How is the company applying a logistics strategy to handle the issue of interest? Discuss the results the company has had in addressing the issue with the logistics strategy. This section is where you get to present your claims and support them with evidence from the literature. It is important to avoid unsubstantiated claims! Logic and flow are also important. A deductive writing strategy for this section is preferred, because it aids reader comprehension. (See the *Scholarly Writing Corner* in EAGLET Organization in ERNIE for an explanation of deductive writing and methods that aid writing continuity and clarity.) This section should be between **two to three pages long**.

Conclusions and Recommendations Section

The last section in the body of the paper is the Conclusions and Recommendations. Begin with a clear and concise summary in which you restate the significance of the issue and describe the chief findings from your literature review and your analysis of the company. Then discuss the success, or failure, of the logistics strategy employed by the company to address the issue. What have you concluded about the suitability of the logistics strategy to handle the issue or the ability of the company to apply the strategy correctly? What recommendations do you have for improving the implementation of the strategy or would you recommend an entirely different strategy based on your findings? This is where you demonstrate your insight and skill as a logistics manager. This section should be **one to two pages long**.

References Section

The final section of the paper is the References. Each reference requires at least one in-text citation in the body of the paper. Likewise, each in-text citation must be supported by the full reference in APA format in this section. Be sure to review the current guidance on APA style guidelines. Remember, the devil's in the details! Lastly, be sure this section complies with the **Research Paper Requirements** and the **MGMT-UG Research Paper Rubric**. Be sure to proofread this section carefully when proofreading your completed paper.

Completed Paper (15% of the Course Grade)

The completed final paper is to include all of the sections and incorporate revisions based on feedback received from the instructor. The final submission must include a cover page with the title of the research paper and your full name.

- **Title Page:** The title should be 12 to 15 words and should include the name of the company, issue, and logistics strategy investigated, for example, *Analysis of the Just-In-Time Strategy Applied by Boeing to Address Manufacturing Processes*.
- **Body:** The body of the paper should be between 8 to 10 pages long (double line spaced), not including the cover page or the list of references. The writing should be free of spelling and grammar errors. **Provide in-text citations for each outside source of ideas, concepts, strategies, data, or other information paraphrased or quoted in the body of the document.** (Plagiarism will be handled according to the University Academic Integrity Policy.) Use Level 2 headings (i.e., bold typeface and left justified) for each section title (i.e., Introduction, Literature Review, Discussion, Conclusions and Recommendations, References). Use double line spacing, 1-inch page margins, and Arabic page numbering in the top right-hand corner of each page throughout the document.
- **References:** Include a list of references formatted in accordance with the current APA style guidelines at the end of the document.

The **MGMT-UG Research Paper Rubric** will be used to evaluate the final paper. Your paper should meet all of the paper requirements as specified in this document as well as the *Excellent* criteria defined on the rubric. Deductions on the graded deliverables may be applied for late submissions.

File Naming Conventions

All submissions must include a cover page with the title of the research paper and your full name. Save the introduction section with "Introduction" and your last name in the Microsoft Word file name (e.g., Introduction-Smith.docx). Save the literature review section with "Literature" and your last name in the Microsoft Word file name (e.g., Literature-Smith.docx). Save the final deliverable (completed paper) with "Research-Paper" and your last name in the Microsoft Word file name (e.g., Research-Paper-Smith.docx). Only use letters, numbers, and dashes in the file names of documents you submit through Blackboard; do not use special characters or spaces in file names.