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BIOL 418 Physiology Spring 2017

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TERM PAPER

You will write a **5-8 page** research paper (typed, font size 12, 1 inch margins, line spacing ~ 1.5) involving some aspect of human physiology or disease. The objectives of this assignment are to allow you to explore a topic of interest to you that we might not cover in class, and to strengthen your research, synthesis, and writing skills.

You should start working on your research topic immediately. Begin by leafing through the syllabus as well as textbooks, magazines and newspaper articles to look for topics that interest you. Then, go online or to the library, look up the literature related to your topic, and sharpen your research idea. A popular and extensive source of peer-reviewed literature on biomedical sciences can be found at PUBMED (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>). Once you have chosen a topic, email me your choice. If your topic is appropriate, I will let you know that you may begin researching more on the topic and start writing. I will also be glad to help if you need assistance defining a good topic area. **The deadline to have your topics approved by me is February 28th, 2017.**

You will need to **cite at least five references**; up to two of these can be review papers, at least three need to be from the primary, peer-reviewed literature. You should strive to find the most authoritative and/or up-to-date sources. DO NOT limit yourself to those sources for which free electronic full text is available. You may need to go to the library website (<http://libraries.cua.edu/>) and order paper(s) through interlibrary loan services (<http://libraries.cua.edu/access/ill.cfm>). For more details please contact the librarian at the Mullins Library (<http://libraries.cua.edu/form/contact.cfm>).

I will grade the papers based upon style, content, originality and references.

Style: Is the paper well-structured? Are grammar and spelling correct? Are references cited correctly in the text and at the end? Is the paper a pleasure to read? I strongly recommend that you write your paper a few weeks early and let it sit so that you can review it with a fresh eye. It is also a good idea to get input from a friend or from a tutor at the CUA Writing Center (<http://english.cua.edu/wc/>).

Content and references: Do you cover the most important points of the issue? Do you have up-to-date information? Were you able to locate the most important sources of information for your topic? Please see me well before the deadline if you are having trouble locating sources.

Format of Citations and References (adopted from UCDavis.edu)

One of the objectives of the term paper in BIOL 418 is for you to learn how to do effective research on a subject and then write it up clearly, showing where you got your information. A research paper requires searching for information pertinent to a given subject, organizing it, and presenting it effectively in written form. The following sections will present the way that I want you to cite your references in the term paper for this course.

1. In-text Citation to References

When citing a reference from your reference list, please use the following conventions:

- i. Put in parentheses the author(s) last names, the year,
- ii. For one author, use the author's last name and year separated by a comma. For example: (Walters, 1994) or (Austin, 1996).
- iii. For more than two authors, use the first author's last name and "et al." For example: (Walters, et al., 1992).
- iv. For the date, use the year. If there are two references by the same author(s) for the same year, use letters after the year: (Walters, 1993b).
- v. If there are specific page numbers for a citation, add them after the year (Walters, 1994, pp. 31-49).
- vi. If you include the author's name(s) in the text of a sentence in the paper, you may omit their names from the parentheses as follows: "Austin (1996) includes valuable references to" or "The examples given by Li and Crane (1993) on web addresses ...".

2. Your List of References

All references in this section should be complete enough for readers to obtain a copy for themselves. Create a list of references, one for each item cited in the paper, in a section called "References". This section goes at the end of your paper. The references are to be alphabetized by the first author's last name, or (if no author is listed) the organization or title. If you cite more than one paper by the same first author, sort them by year of publication, earliest year first. Single-space the entries in your list of references. Separate the entries with a blank line. Do not number the references. The general format for the author, title, and date in your reference list is as follows:

i. Author(s):

First author's last name, followed by the initials. If there are two, separate their names with "and". For three or more authors, separate all but the last author's name with commas, and use "and" before the last author's name in the list. End with a period. For example:

Walters, R.F.

Walters, R.F. and Reed, N.E.

Walters, R.F., Bharat, S. R. and Austin, A.A.

Charniak, E., Riesbeck, C., McDermott, D. and Meehan, J.

ii. Date

Italicize and enclose the year in parentheses. End with a period. For example: (2013).

iii. Title

If the title is that of an article, use the regular font; Capitalize only the first letter of the first word and proper nouns. End with a period. For example, an article's title would look like:

"A permeability barrier surrounds taste buds in lingual epithelia."

iv. Journal

a. Name

When citing the name of a journal write the name in italics, with all words capitalized except for articles, prepositions and conjunctions.

b. Volume, number, and page numbers:

Give the volume number, followed by the issue number in parentheses (if there is an issue number), followed by a colon (:) and the page number(s).

For example: *American Journal of Physiology - Cell Physiology* 308(1):21-32

3. Samples of Complete References

Dando, R., Kurian, M.V., Pereira, E., Barro-Soria, R., Chaudhari, N., and Roper, S.D. (2014). A permeability barrier surrounds taste buds in lingual epithelia. *American Journal of Physiology - Cell Physiology* 308(1):21-32

Dvoryanchikov, G., Kurian M.V. and Chaudhari, N.(2013). Functional cell types of adult taste buds are replenished from multiple lineages of Keratin 14-positive and -negative progenitors. *Journal of Neuroscience* 13(2): 54-59

Kurian, M.V, Hamilton, L. R., Mehl, P. M., Keeven and J. K., Mullins, J. M. (2012). Enhanced cell survival and diminished apoptotic response to simulated ischemia-reperfusion in H9c2 cells after magnetic field preconditioning. *Apoptosis* 17(11): 1182-1196

Kurian, M.V., Hamilton, L. R., Mehl, P. M., Keeven and J. K., Mullins, J. M. (2006). Elevated levels of stress proteins (Hsp32 and Hsp70i) in H9c2 cells exposed to 60 Hz, 120 μ T magnetic field. *Molecular & Cellular Biomechanics* 3(4):217-218

Lucas C., Qi M., Julian N., Gupta S., Kurian M. V., Locatelli P and Mesri E. (2015) Kaposi's sarcoma herpesvirus/HHV8 induced activation of Platelet Derived Growth Factor Receptor-alpha is a major oncogenic driver in Kaposi's sarcoma. *Cancer Discovery* 12(3): 113-118

Submitting the Term Paper on Blackboard

Only electronic submissions on Blackboard will be accepted. The process of submitting it on Blackboard is detailed below:

- Once you have the final version of your term paper, open your Blackboard account for BIOL 418 and click on the “**Assignment**” link in the Menu section. You will be brought to the **Assignment** page.
- Click on the “**Term Paper**” link. Scroll down to “**Attach File**”.
- Click on the “**Browse my Computer**” tab. Locate the Term Paper on your computer’s hard drive. Make sure it is in a compatible MS Word or PDF (preferable) format.
- Attach it by double-clicking on the file.
- Check the “**Plagiarism tool**” box - to detect and discourage plagiarism the submitted papers will be automatically crosschecked for evidence of plagiarism using *Safe Assign* software and Blackboard’s *Global Reference Database*
- Click “**Submit**” This will take you to the **Review Submission History** page. Preview your paper and then click “**OK**” at the bottom of the page. That should complete the submission process and if successful you should receive an email confirmation.

The term paper is due by 11:59 PM, on April 28th, 2017. 20% will be deducted from the final score on the term paper for every 24 hours delay in submitting the paper.



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