General Psychology Term Paper

Students are required to research and write a term paper for 15% of their final grade. The specific requirements are given below. Please note: YOU MUST COMPLETE THE INFORMATION LITERACY TUTORIAL BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT.

* The purpose of the term paper is to provide you, the student, with an opportunity to explore General Psychology in greater depth. The paper is to be a 3-5 paper review of a list of provided topics. If there is a topic that you are interested in and do not see it on the list, remember that it must be related to some aspect of l. If you believe that it is, ask your instructor if they agree that you can move forward.
* Paper topics must be approved by the instructor (See additional instructions below).
* Paper topics must be approved by the instructor. NOTE: All paper proposals must be submitted via e-mail to the instructor. Paper topics that have not been approved will not be accepted. Paper topics proposals must be submitted to (kjones@kilgore.edu) for approval
	+ Paper topic proposals must include the following:
		- Topic
		- Rationale for selection of topic
		- A minimum of 2 possible peer reviewed sources that you will use as part of the required 5 references for your paper

 At least 4 references for your paper must come from peer reviewed journals (not Psychology Today or Newsweek, for example). Be careful when using information from the internet. Two approved sites are <https://www.apa.org/> and <https://www.nih.gov/> When in doubt, check with your instructor. NOTE: Do not rely heavily on popular literature, for example, a book you happen to see at Borders Books. Often these books are not empirically based. Also, do not take the bulk of your paper from one source or from secondary sources. I want an integration, analysis, and critique of all your readings the current **research** in the area you have chosen to study.

* The paper must be 3-5 pages, this does not include the title or reference page. You will include a thesis statement, provide evidence of critical thinking skills, and relevant supporting evidence.
* YOU MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 4 SCHOLARLY/PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES
* Use Times New Roman or Arial, 12 pt. font
* Use APA style when creating this paper. This includes when citing a source, using in-text citation and the reference/works cited page. PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL NOT CREATE AN ABSTRACT FOR THIS PAPER NOR WILL YOU INCLUDE A LITATURE REVIEW!
* Writing In-Text Citations in APA Style
* Attach Reference page using APA style
* Use Safe Assign (on Blackboard) to verify originality.

**List of Possible Topics for the Research Paper**

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| General Psych topics |
| Addictions: What are the past and current theories as to why individuals develop addictions? which substance(s) most addicting? Which easiest/hardest to treat? |
| Anxiety:  Causes including biological and environmental theories, Symptoms and Therapy |
| The effects of cognitive dissonance on behavior/values. What does current research say about cognitive dissonance? What implication does it have on society today? |
| The Nightly Dream Cycle and Sleep Deprivation: impact on an individual physical and mental health.  |
| The Validity of Psychological Tests:  Why and how were they established? Which tests more valid?  Less valid? Key figures involved in various psychological tests in the past and present. |
| Endorphins and Happiness: production, role, implications for mental health |
| How has Abraham Maslow's concept of self-actualization affected Psychology?  |
| How is Intelligence Measured? The history of intelligence testing and reasons for controversy/debate |
| Contact sports & degenerative brain diseaseCurrent research and controversy/debate related to contact sports and degenerative brain disease. |
| Rational Emotive Theory:  development, including history, major contributors & modern uses |
| Theories of Forgetting – history, explanation & implications for better memory |
| What are the major theories about Motivation? Who are the major contributors? How do you get children and adults to Achieve based on the current theories of motivation? |
| Reality Therapy:  development, including history, major contributors & modern uses |
| The history and modern application of pet therapy. |