

Research Assignment
Discover New York Fall 2011
McKenzie/Livermore

The Research Assignment is worth 20 points of the 100 points possible for this class and is designed to introduce you to the steps involved in the preparation of a research paper. For help in the writing of this assignment you can go to the following page for useful webpages.

<http://charleslivermore.com/internet-links/styleguides.htm#Writing>

The research process involves several steps:

1. **Selecting a topic** for research. The topic for this assignment will be an examination of the immigrant group of your choosing. Some possible topics you may consider are:

- a. Conditions in their home country that caused them to emigrate.
- b. Their travels to New York City
- c. Their conditions they found in New York City

Some possible topics - Education - Working conditions - Religious considerations - Prejudices experienced - Opportunities found

Assignment 1 will introduce you to materials which will help you to select a topic.

2. **Finding in-depth material** on your topic. Once you have made your preliminary selection of a topic you'll need to find more in-depth information – more details to complete your research. You will need to explore the libraries catalog for books. Some of the books available are listed at <http://charleslivermore.com/dny/stj-immigration-books.pdf>. You will also need to include scholarly articles in your research. The library has an extensive list of databases you can use to find scholarly articles*. You should also explore the internet for two websites related to your topic. **Assignments 2, 3 and 4 will help you find the in-depth materials you need.**

Scholarly Articles

Throughout your research here at St John's you will hear your professors require **scholarly articles**. Defining scholarly articles is always the professor teaching the class.

- Are signed and often include author's credentials
- For this assignment the scholarly articles you chose must be at least **4** pages.
- **MUST** contain footnotes/citations and a bibliography list.

4. Finalizing the topic of your research.

You may find that you can't find enough information about the topic you first selected. Broaden the scope of your paper or explore a new topic. You may find that there is too much information. Narrow the scope of your paper.

Note! **Book reviews are NOT scholarly articles and may not be used as sources.**

Technical Requirements for the Assignment

Use Microsoft Word and Times New Roman font at 12 points.

You must learn to use RefWorks and Write N' Cite for the Research Project.

Include one inch margins all around.

are to be sent **as an attachment** in an email to me at: livermop@stjohns.edu

Each attachment **MUST** include your name, current date, and assignment number in the upper left hand corner of the page.

Example:

Your Name
Current Date
Assignment #

E-mails **MUST** have the following in the subject line:

Last name - DNY – assignment number

Example: (Using my last name and assignment 1)

Livermore DNY – Assignment 1

All books, articles, webpages etc that you are including for your research project must be in the **MLA single-line formatting style**. (RefWorks has this format).

Late assignments will receive a deduction of 5 % the first day and 1% each day thereafter. Assignments more than one week late will not be accepted.

You may re-do an assignment to increase your grade. You must make an appointment with me to review what needs to be done and you will have one week from your meeting with me to re-submit the assignment. Only one re-do per assignment.

Be sure to copy (cc) yourself on all assignments you submit to me.

Assignment One – 5 points	Deadline: Sun Sep 25
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Explore various immigrant groups in the encyclopedias and dictionaries listed below to discover their contributions/experiences in settling in New York City. Based on this exploration select an immigrant group and the specific contribution(s) or experience(s) you would like to explore further (see above for suggestions/examples).

<p>Encyclopedias and Dictionaries</p> <p>Dictionary of American immigration history, JV6450 .D53 1990 Encyclopedia of American Immigration by James Ciment Ref JV6465 .E53 2001 Encyclopedia of Ellis Island by Barry Moreno Ref JV 6484 M67 Encyclopedia of North American Immigration by John Powell. Ref JV 6465 P68 Immigration in U.S. history, JV6450 .I565 2006</p> <p>Prepare a notes page using at least three of the above sources.</p>

You are advised to review the RefWorks tutorials at: <http://www.refworks.com/tutorial/>

The following websites offer further suggestions on selecting a topic:

http://web.princeton.edu/sites/writing/writing_center/Handouts/FindingaTopic.pdf

<http://www.wesleyan.edu/writing/workshop-old/findingatopic.html>

<http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/research/suggtop.html>

Based on the readings you have done **write a Topic Statement and Exposition**. (Write this in Word using Write 'N' Cite and send to me as an attachment in an email.)

Your topic statement should be no more than a sentence or two.

Your topic exposition should be no more than 100-250 words.

Be sure to cite the information in your exposition.

Indiana University has a website with some guidelines and discussion about the Topic Statement:
<http://www.indiana.edu/~iucdp/thesis.html>

NOTE! A sample Topic Statement and Exposition is available at:

<http://charleslivermore.com/dny/index.html>

GRADING RUBRIC -- ASSIGNMENT 1	
40%	Notes (total of 5 notes)
10%	Topic Statement
20%	Exposition
20%	Bibliography
10%	Use of MLA Style
5%	Correct Font
5%	Assignment identified as instructed

Assignment Two – Books 3 points	Deadline: Sun Oct 2
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To continue your development of the topic indicated in your **Topic Statement** find a minimum of **three (3)** books related to your research topic. You may search the libraries' online catalog at <http://libraries.stjohns.edu> or use the list <http://charleslivermore.com/dny/stj-immigration-books.pdf>

Take notes which further your understanding of your research topic. In your notes include the page number(s) for each factoid you include in your notes. The notes you take must further the development of the topic you have selected.

Please note that the TOPIC STATEMENT must appear at the top of each assignment submitted AND the notes you take from your selected books must relate to the TOPIC STATEMENT.

GRADING RUBRIC -- ASSIGNMENT 2	
5%	Include Topic Statement at top of page
60%	Notes (minimum of 5 notes)
10%	Bibliography
20%	Use of MLA Style
	Meets
5%	Correct Font
5%	Identifies assignment correctly

Assignment Three - Journal Articles 4 points	Deadline: Sun Oct 16
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To continue your development of the topic indicated in your **Topic Statement** find a minimum of **four (4) scholarly articles** that further your understanding of your research topic. Include your notes in RefWorks.

You must use the libraries' databases to find articles.

Take notes which further your understanding of your research topic. In your notes include the **page number(s)** for each factoid you include in your notes. The notes you take must further development of the subtopic you have selected. They may not be miscellaneous facts concerning the group you have selected.

GRADING RUBRIC ASSIGNMENT 3	
5%	Include Topic Statement at top of page
60%	Notes (minimum of 6 notes)
20%	Bibliography
10%	Use of MLA Style
	Meets
5%	Correct Font
5%	Identifies assignment correctly

Assignment Four - Websites 3 points	Deadline: Sun Oct 30
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Find a minimum of **two (2) web sites** that further your understanding of your research topic and include the notes in RefWorks.

Evaluate the websites using the criteria found on:

<http://charleslivermore.com/libraries/searchengines/evaluate.html>

GRADING RUBRIC ASSIGNMENT 4	
5%	Included the Topic Statement at top of page
15%	Finding two relevant websites and taking notes
40%	Evaluating the websites.
10%	Bibliography
20%	Use of MLA Style
5%	Correct Font
5%	Identifies assignment correctly

5%	Included the Topic Statement at top of page
15%	Finding two relevant websites and taking notes
40%	Evaluating the websites.
10%	Bibliography
20%	Use of MLA Style
5%	Correct Font
5%	Identifies assignment correctly

Assignment Five - 5 points	Deadline: Sun Nov 20
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Over the course of completing the DNY research assignment you have gathered data related to the immigrant group and the sub-topic you have selected about that group. If you have done your research with diligence you would now be ready to write your paper. That is not required for this assignment.

Write a summary exposition as you did for Assignment 1 (between 100 and 300 words) Be sure to write the **summary exposition using the MLA style.**

Both of the above items should be included as attachments in an email sent to me.

If you are unsure of any aspects of this assignment you should make an appointment to see me. At that appointment we will review all points you don't understand.

Knowing how to complete this assignment will be a cornerstone for all the papers you will be required to write here at St John's. PLEASE see me if you have any questions.

GRADING RUBRIC -- ASSIGNMENT 5	
25%	Notes in Ref Works
5%	Topic Statement
30%	Summary Exposition
20%	Citations & Works Cited list
10%	Use of MLA Style
5%	Correct Font
5%	Assignment identified as instructed

25%	Notes in Ref Works
5%	Topic Statement
30%	Summary Exposition
20%	Citations & Works Cited list
10%	Use of MLA Style
5%	Correct Font
5%	Assignment identified as instructed