



# SPPA 6750 Clinical Research Methodology

SPRING 2014

STEVEN H. LONG, PH.D.

## PROJECT 1

The purpose of this project is to confirm and perhaps improve your ability to locate information on a topic of academic and/or clinical interest and to cite that information appropriately. The information may be located in traditional published media (books, journals, periodicals) or in cyberspace (web pages, newsgroups, blogs, etc.).

For this project you should select an academic or clinical topic that interests you. This can, for example, be a type of disorder, a type of treatment, a method of assessment or a theory or dispute within the profession. Your topic should be sufficiently narrow that your search for information will not yield an unmanageable number of sources. For instance, rather than investigating "Down Syndrome" you should look for sources of information on "tongue reduction surgery in Down Syndrome" or "daycare options for children with Down Syndrome" or "specific expressive language impairment in Down Syndrome." If you're having trouble narrowing your topic, check with me.

For your selected topic you must then locate eight relevant references from at least six of the following source groups:

- a book in the Marquette libraries
- a book in a library outside Wisconsin
- a research journal article in a bibliographic database (e.g., Medline, PsychLit)
- a popular (non-research) periodical in a bibliographic database (e.g., New York Times (Full Text Current Four Years))
- a research report, review, or other publication contained in an information database (e.g., Mental Measurements Yearbook, ERIC)
- a web site, including Facebook or other social media sites
- a document from a different web site
- a newsgroup, discussion group, chat room, blog, etc.

### Written report

Prepare an electronic summary of your references, giving the citation for each in APA format. If you are unfamiliar with APA conventions, visit the online tutorial at <http://flash1r.apa.org/apastyle/basics/index.htm>. For answers to specific questions about troublesome citation forms, see <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/index.aspx>. I specifically recommend that you read <http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/social-media/>, which deals with the citation of web-based media. Other resources are available at <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/index.aspx>.

- The first page of your summary should be your alphabetized reference list.
- Following the summary, construct a small table that shows how each of your references corresponds to the source categories, e.g.

a research report, review, or other publication contained in an information database (e.g., Mental Measurements Yearbook, ERIC)	Lewis et al. (2004)
a web site, including Facebook pages	Council for Special Education (2008)

- Finally, take a screenshot of each of your informational “finds” and then embed it in your electronic document. Use a paint or photo editing program to crop your screen shots so that the source and relevant content are readily apparent.

### Grading

100 points total

80 points (8 X 10 points) for locating relevant references from each of the eight specified sources

16 points (8 X 2 points) for using appropriate citation forms for each reference

4 points for using RefWorks or EndNote Web

(<http://www.mu.edu/library/research/citationManagement.shtml>) to format your bibliography (you must supply me with your logon name and password)