NPS is the place to create a complete thought, away from the tyranny of the urgent.

-Col Todd Lyons, USMC, July 2019

# TRAESTANTIA PER SCIENTIAM

## Foundations of Academic Writing

#### 6 October 2020, 1500–1700

**Graduate Writing Center** 

https://nps.edu/web/gwc





### GWC AND DKL ZOOM WORKSHOPS OCTOBER 2 – NOVEMBER 6



- Refresh academic fundamentals
- Sharpen critical thinking skills
- Learn academic norms
- Strengthen writing mechanics
- *"My Glory Never Dies": Military in the Arts*

- Library Quick Start
- Thesis Quick Start
- Citation Management with Zotero



#### DUDLEY KNOX LIBRARY

#### SIGN UP: https://nps.edu/web/gwc/resident-workshops

## **GWC Coaching**



SIGN-UP: Coaching & Workshops

Feedback?

Please share your experiences.



Graduate

#### **Our Mission**

To develop the writing and critical thinking skills of NPS students for success in graduate school and as military and civilian leaders.

#### Welcome to the Graduate Writing Center!

Being a good writer empowers you. In a world where careful analysis of security challenges is sincerely needed, writing well takes on increasing importance, not only as a means of communication but as a reflection of one's ability to think analytically and critically.

We become strong writers through practice, constructive feedback, and a solid understanding of writing techniques. Our coaches and instructors support you throughout this educational process, providing guidance as you develop course papers and thesis chapters. While our coaches do not edit your work, they help you develop your ideas, organization, logic, arguments, grammar, punctuation, and citation skills.

Synchronous: coach and student meet at same time; intended for most students Asynch: coach emails feedback

Online Drop-in Hours:

Mon-Fri 1300-1400



Click here to watch a brief (4:40) introduction to the GWC's mission and services. Click here to watch a brief to the big blue button for writing coaching and workshops using WCOnline. Eyes left to the big blue button the fill take you to WCOnline.



#### **Introduction to Grad School Writing**

John Locke, Deputy Director, Graduate Writing Center

#### How to Look and Be Smart

Dr. Sandra Leavitt Director, Graduate Writing Center





#### **The Writing Process**

**Dr. Kate Egerton** (contractor) Writing Coach, Graduate Writing Center

Going Straight to the Source: Using Human Subjects Data in Your Thesis, Capstone Report or Dissertation

Dr. Larry Shattuck, Human Systems Integration



## Introduction to Graduate School Writing

JOHN LOCKE

Fall 2020



Graduate Writing Center

Naval Postgraduate School



## The Ideal Reader Reaction

- I understood your purpose
- I knew how your argument was organized
  - You delivered on that promise
- I found your evidence sufficient
- Your logic convinced me
- Maybe even:
  - I learned something
  - You changed the way I look at the world

Your writing is *adorable*!

### Overview

- What's the point? Looking at the big picture of academic writing
  - What's different about it?
  - Keeping goals realistic
  - Serving the reader
  - Grad-school expectations

#### Writing addresses many different needs



### What's the objective of academic writing?

- Primarily, to share new knowledge
  - Research:
    - Creates new knowledge.
    - Explains how the world works.
  - Academic publishing (journal articles, academic books, conference papers, etc.) provides a formal record of research.
  - Coursework is generally a learning exercise that models academic conventions.
  - Theses and dissertations form the bridge.
    - A thesis is like a class paper, only longer. False!

## Our basic problem . . . is the immensity of existing knowledge.

#### Knowledge goes to infinity in every direction

Published knowledge all-time: 130 million books (600,000+ in the U.S. every year). 50 million journal articles published all-time.

Academic inquiry is theoretically unbounded.

- Practical considerations
  - Relevance . . . who cares?
  - Significance . . . does it have value?
  - Who pays the bills?

Even with those allowances, our problem is still immense!

## The Virtues of Narrowness

#### How do mere mortals deal with this immensity?

- Keep the topic narrow.
  - Drive toward the specific, away from the general.
- Use the topic definition as a boundary.
  - Avoid the trap of wandering into fascinating, but irrelevant, blind allies.
- Stay within that space, but be thorough.
- In your reading, observe the narrow focus of academic articles, and even books.



## The Reader's Dilemma

Writing would be *so easy* if there was no reader. —no rules for writing a personal diary.

The *academic reader* knows that the topic can go anywhere, and is specialized enough not to care about most of the destinations.

What about this commonplace object? Why am I discussing it? What's the issue?



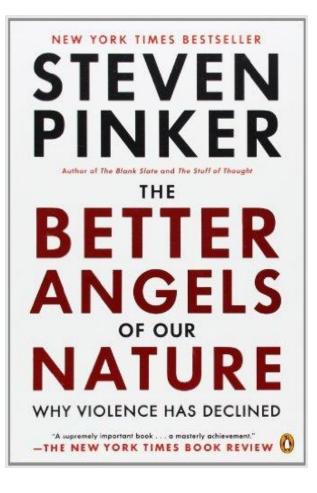
- This *specific* shirt?
- Materials
- Manufacturing
- Style
- Marketing
- History of shirts
- History of word "shirt"

## Solving the Reader's Dilemma

- Conclusions come first, proof follows.
  - Define the box . . . immediately!
  - The introduction is the conclusion.
  - The details that follow fit in that narrow space.
  - Especially important for abstract, hard to visualize, ideas.
- But doesn't that ruin the suspense?
  - Yes! Spoiler alert!
  - Suspense, mystery, and surprise belong to other forms of writing.
    - We're explainers, not entertainers.
  - Doubt frustrates the academic reader.
- Still, a kind of suspense remains.
  - The introduction is just a claim; the proof is in the body of the paper.
  - If the specialized reader is interested in the topic, they'll want to know the reasoning behind it.



## A Large-Scale Example



- The issue
  - The widespread perception that we live in violent times
- The puzzle
  - Is it true? What *is* the trend of violence in human history?
  - Why violence has declined
- Features
  - Broad "meaning of life" question
  - Large-scale study
    - ~4 years to write
    - 15 major themes
    - 700 pages of text
    - + 42 pages of endnotes
    - + 34-page bibliography

Steven Pinker, The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined (Penguin Group, 2011)

## A Small-Scale Example

#### The Better Angels of Our Nature, page 68:

... the oddest journal article I have ever read is "Losing Face, Saving Face: Noses and Honour in the Late Medieval Town."\* Here the [German] historian Valentin Groebner documents dozens of accounts from medieval Europe in which one person cut off the nose of another. Sometimes it was an official punishment for heresy, treason, prostitution, or sodomy, but more often it was an act of private vengeance.... These mutilations were so common that, according to Groebner, "the authors of late-medieval surgical textbooks also devote particular attention to nasal injuries, discussing whether a nose once cut off can grow back ...."

\* Valentin Groebner, "Losing Face, Saving Face..." (**15 pages**), *History Workshop Journal*, Fall 1995.



Chinatown (1974)

- Features
  - Small-scale
  - Narrow scope
  - Groebner's main point
  - Pinker's data point

Groebner is building a brick. Pinker is building a mansion. Think brick.

## **Knowledge and Ideas**

- Knowledge is not a monolithic entity. It's in a constant state of growth and destruction. A giant, endless debate about everything.
- Your voice is important. Knowledge benefits when many take part in the conversation.
- Is the military ethic of following orders compatible with how conventional wisdom is challenged in academia? How can these worlds be merged?



**Growth and Destruction** 

## **Expectations: The Internet**

#### Friend or Foe?

#### It's both, of course!

<u>The good:</u> Massive amounts of data; ease of access. <u>The bad:</u> It *is* an evil swamp of temptation. From a research perspective, it gives the illusion of having everything that matters at one's fingertips.





Research means more than moving information from one place to another.

## **Expectations: Wikipedia**

#### Friend or Foe?

#### Both, of course!

#### The good

- Comprehensive on major topics
- Usually well-sourced
- A fantastic resource for getting a quick-start on a new topic, or
- Looking up commonplace info

#### The not-so-good

- Variable quality-control
- No peer review
- Pages can change at any time

*Therefore, Wikipedia is generally* <u>*not</u> approved as a source for academic work.*</u>



### WIKIPEDIA The Free Encyclopedia (6,168,853 English-language articles)

#### Organization: The Secret to Academic Writing

Topics covered:

What do these ideas look like on the page? How and why of academic writing technique Practical matters Reliable writing practices

Wednesday, October 7, 1000-1100 Tuesday, October 13, 1300-1400

Sign up at GWC website: <u>https://my.nps.edu/web/gwc</u> The **BLUE** button WCOnline: Pick Workshops Calendar *Zoom login info in sign-up form* 



"I used the framing and outlining method, which saved me about 40-50 hours on another final paper (that ended up being 17 pages)!"

–NSA student

## How to Look and Be Smart

#### Dr. Sandra Leavitt

Director, Graduate Writing Center and Thesis Processing Office Fall 2020



Graduate Writing Center

Naval Postgraduate School



## AGENDA

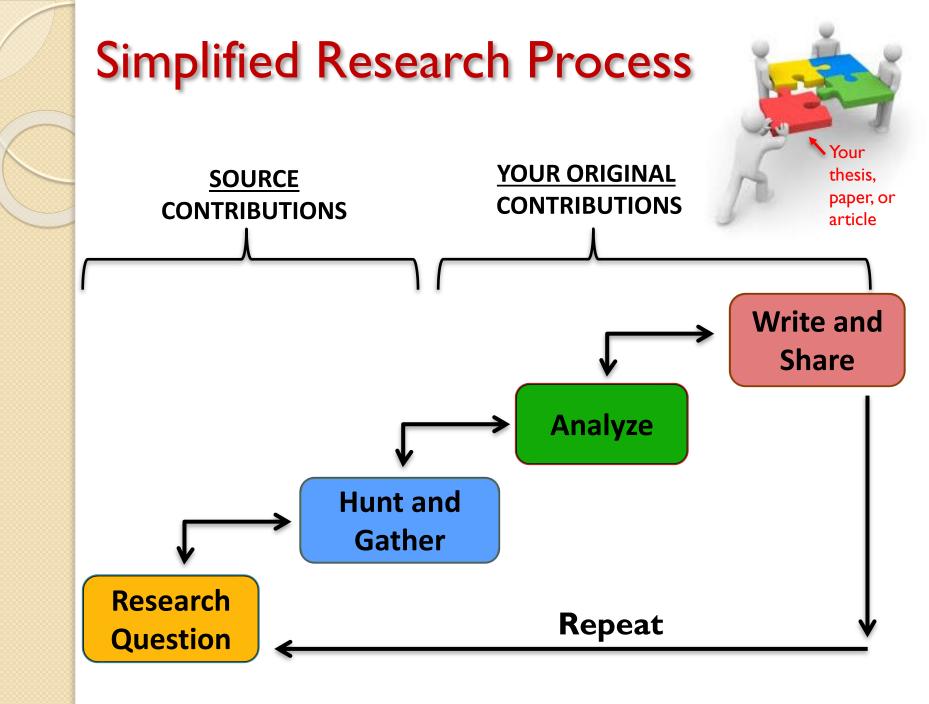
- **1.** Research: borrowed + your original contributions
- 2. Why sources are so important
- **3.** Academic norms and strategies



## I. Research: Explore, Share, Repeat



Scholars share, because they trust they will get credit



## 2. Why are sources so important?

- A. Provide existing knowledge and data
- **B.** Increase the quality, rigor, and integrity of your work
- C. Allow you to model academic norms, rules, and integrity





# A. Sources provide existing knowledge and data

Save you **time** 

Improve your accuracy





## What types of information do you seek?

**1. Descriptions**: Who, what, when, where, how

What happened? By whom and to whom? What background and context do we need? What have others studied? How have others studied the problem?

2. Explanations: Why and how

How have others explained similar events? How have they explained your topic? Do their explanations make sense?

**3. Opportunities**: What's debated? What's missing?

Save time • Improve accuracy • Demonstrate understanding

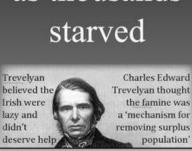
## Famine's Link to Conflict: What do we know?

#### Why Ireland exported food as thousands starved



Research Question

Hunt and Gather



Ireland, 1845–49 20–25 percent died

didn't



India under British rule, 1876–78 5.5 million people died



China, Great Leap Forward, 1958-62 40 million died

#### Nigerian Civil War, 1967–69, military blockage 100.000 died from combat 1.5 million died from starvation



S. Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, Yemen, 2017–18 20 million at risk of starvation 2017: 50,000 died from blockade in Yemen

## Why do famines happen?

#### 1. Descriptive Data

- Definitions
- Locations, dates, deaths
- Refugees and IDPs
- Impacts

Research Ouestion

Hunt and

Gather

- Conflicts, wars
- Natural disasters
- Economic conditions
- Regime policies

#### 2. Explanations:

"Famines are caused by acts of God"

"Famines are caused by poverty"

"Famines are caused by **policy decisions**"

**3. Opportunities:** What <u>hasn't</u> been well described or explained?

Why do governments implement policies that cause famine?

#### Why do governments implement policies that cause famine?

**Research** Question Hunt and

Gather



Psychopathic, revolutionary leaders?

State control of citizens?

International leverage?

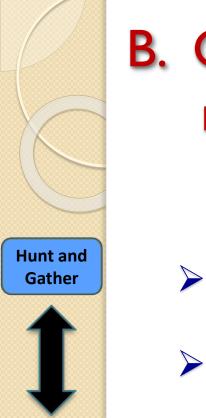


Weak states?

Acts of war?

Unintended consequence of war?

#### Where <u>should</u> we put our efforts and money?



Analyze

## B. Good sources increase the quality, rigor, and integrity of your work

- Build analysis on a reliable foundation
- Raise your confidence as you work



Transfer source's reputation to yourself

## What are "high quality" sources?

## Works with good sources!

Build on established **theories and frameworks** 

- Contain trusted and transparent methods
- Come from reputable organizations, publishers, speakers, and researchers



Hunt and Gather

Seek peer-reviewed, academic presses, and other trusted institutions (.edu, .gov, .org, .mil)



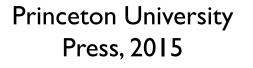
Be alert to bias!



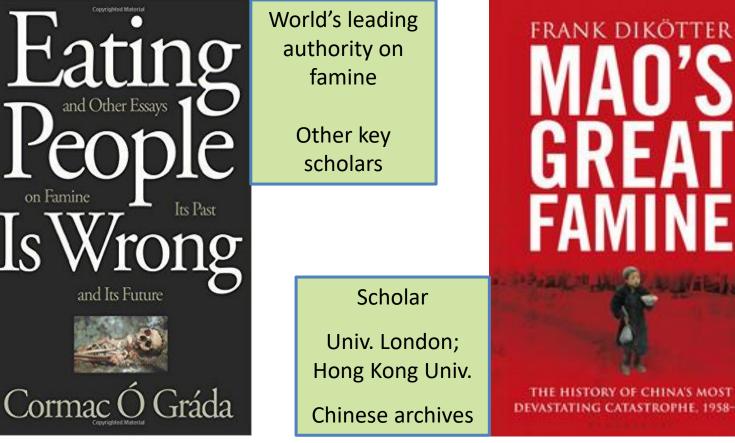
Think critically, search deeply

### Which is the "better" book?





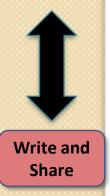
Walker Books, 2011



THE HISTORY OF CHINA'S MOST DEVASTATING CATASTROPHE, 1958-62

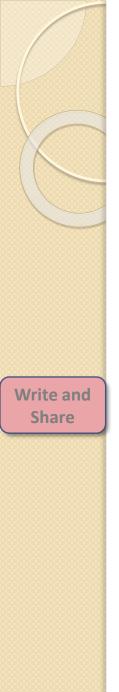








Tom Gauld, for New Scientist



## Look Smart

#### Accurate citations tell your readers:

- You are a professional
- You did your homework
- You respect your readers' intelligence and time



- Your own work can be trusted
- Others can confidently continue where you left off



## Be Smart

## Practice core principles

Everything—words, ideas, data, definitions, theories, and images—in your academic papers is assumed to be yours, <u>UNLESS</u> it's common knowledge written in your own words, <u>OR</u> you tell your reader it's from someone else.

Fear can be a very powerful emotion that paralyzes some people, causes dangerous overreactions in others, and can drive protective measures.





# Be Smart

# Practice core principles

Everything—words, ideas, data, definitions, theories, and images—in your academic papers is assumed to be yours, <u>UNLESS</u> it's common knowledge written in your own words, <u>OR</u> you tell your reader it's from someone else.

**SIGNAL** that which belongs to someone else:

President Franklin D. Roosevelt rallied a nation on edge during his 1933 inaugural address, explaining that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."<sup>65</sup>





# Be Smart Practice basic rules

Everything...in your academic papers is assumed to be yours, <u>UNLESS</u> it's common knowledge written in your own words, <u>OR</u> you tell your reader it's from someone else.

### 1. Quote and cite if you

borrow more than 5 words in a unique sequence



As one unarmed protestor in Hong Kong explained, "after they tear-gassed us, we were no longer afraid" (NY Times, 2019).

### 2. <u>Paraphrase or summarize,</u> <u>and cite</u>, rewriting the original in

your own words and writing style

sincerely yours, Ted Hard States To T I will donate all

aka "The Uni-bomber"



# **Final Tips**

- Pay attention to sources and norms your readings
- Bookmark: libguide/nps.edu/citation my.nps.edu/web/gwc

### Re-learn how to:

- Take notes
- Use signal phrases, paraphrase, quote, and summarize
- Debate your sources
- Use citation management software, i.e., Zotero
- Ask writing coaches, librarians, faculty
- > Practice!

### We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit.

Aristotle

(paraphrased)

# The Writing Process

### Kate Egerton, PhD

October 6, 2020



Graduate Writing Center

Naval Postgraduate School

# Learning Tools

#### 🥮 NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL



#### Graduate Writing Center

Home Coaching - Workshops - Resources -

Learning Tools 🕤 GWC FAQ

#### Learning Tools

Lifestyle Factors
Back to School
Research Refresher
Learning Styles
Multiple Language Learners
Special Needs & Reasonable Accommodation

#### Learning Tools

On this site you'll find information to optimize your learning environment, develop strategies for graduate-level success, and manage personal challenges that affect learning and mission completion. Many resources are self-help while others are made available through NPS program officers, faculty members, Office of the Dean of Students, GWC, and Dudley Knox Library. *Faculty and staff are committed to protecting your privacy.* 

TII FAQ 🔻

Publications -

0

#### NPS Contacts

Key Self-Help Resources

# ✓ Each learner is different

 You are probably not the same student you were before **Expert writers**: Embrace the writing process Practice writing early and often ✓ Write to learn before writing to explain



### NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

**MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA** 



1. Invent Writing to learn 2. Draft 3. Revise Writing to explain 4. Edit Ready to deliver 5. Finalize

 Start before you are really ready Stop before you are really done ✓ Repeat

# **–Robert Boice**



### Writing to learn

## Writing to explain

Ready to deliver



Perfectionism is the voice of the oppressor, the enemy of the people. It will keep you cramped and insane your whole life, and it is the main obstacle between you and a shitty first draft.

# -Anne Lamott

# DAUTETIE

OMORROW

Adapted from: Allie Brosh, http://hyperboleandahalf.blogsp ot.com/2010/06/this-is-why-illnever-be-adult.html



100623-N-1688B-064 NORFOLK (June 23, 2010) Command Master Chief Keith Mahaffey, assigned to the guided-missile cruiser USS Monterey (CG 61), participates in the commissioning of the Navy Operational Fitness and Fueling System (NOFFS). NOFFS is the Navy's new physical fitness program that is designed to give an all around workout while reducing physical training injuries. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matthew Bookwalter/Released)



- When you draft, try starting somewhere in the middle
- Choose something you already understand that your reader needs to know
- Cite as you go, keeping track of which words, ideas, and data belong to whom
- If you get stuck, skip to another subtopic within your project and start another paragraph.

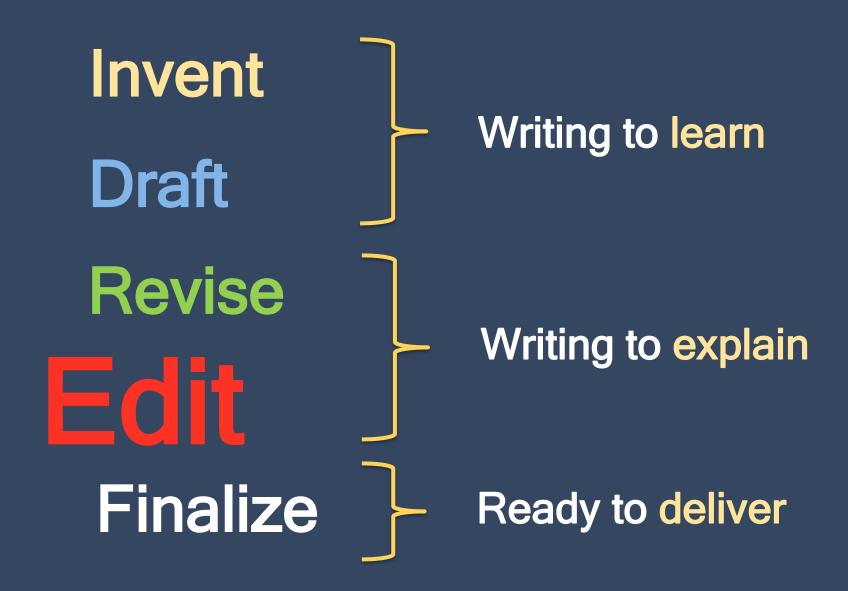


# Invent Writing to learn Draft Revise Writing to explain Edit **Finalize** Ready to deliver

## Highlight (or write, if it's missing) each paragraph's topic sentence

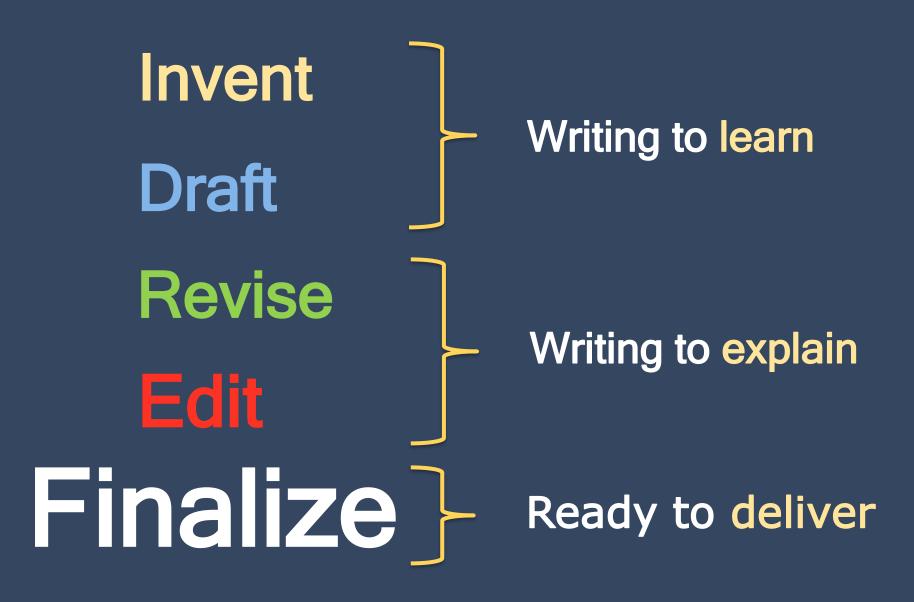
- Quickly outline your draft and audition changes
- ✓ Fill gaps and kill repetition
- Revise your thesis and place it front and center—what have you proven?

 Now write (or revise) the introduction that sets up that thesis *and* a "so what, here's why" conclusion



# ✓ Take time away from your text

- Create distance between your text and your brain by reading sentences out loud and, perhaps, out of order
- Can you find the subject and verb of every sentence? And do they agree?
- ✓ Are you punctuating consistently?
- Did you spell everyone's name correctly each time?
- ✓ <u>NOW</u> use spell & grammar check



# ✓ Find and follow your format

- Check name spellings ONE MORE TIME
- Perfect citations and references according to your chosen style (don't mix and match)
- Deliver through the proper channels
- ✓ Keep archive copies of all work

## Need help with citation form? Dudley Knox Library's Citation Guide has you covered!

NPS Dudley Knox Library / Research Guides / Citation Guide / Home

#### **Citation Guide**

(ECE)

Learn how to cite articles, books, reports, theses, government documents, etc. using citation styles like APA, Chicago, IEEE, and more

Home	APA 🗸	Chicago Author-Date 🗸	Chicago Notes & Bibliography / Turabian 👻	IEEE 🗸	INFORMS -	Other Styles	FAQ & Support
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#### Citation Styles by Department or Program

Each of the following departments has a required or preferred citation style for theses, dissertations, capstone project reports, and final project reports. If you do not see your department or program listed, check with your thesis advisor **before** the thesis proposal stage to determine the style best suited to your academic field.

Department or Program	Citation Style
Acquisition Research Program	APA
Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS)	Turabian (Notes & Bibliography)
Cyber Systems and Operations (CSO/MACO)	IEEE preferred, but any recognized style will be accepted
Defense Analysis (DA)	Chicago (Notes & Bibliography) preferred, but any recognized style will be accepted
Electrical and Computer Engineering	IEEE

IEEE

#### Expert Personalized Advice

Search this Guide

Search



- Drop-in hours: Mon-Fri, 1000-1400
- By appointment



- Drop-in hours in the GWC: Mon & Thu, 1500–1600
- Processors are also available Mon–Fri, 1200 to 1500, Library Rm. 111

# The GWC is here for you

Use our workshops, coaching sessions, and online resources

Build writing habits now that will support you through your thesis and beyond





NAVAL Postgraduate School

# Going Straight to the Source:

Using Human Subjects Data in Your Thesis, Capstone Report, or Dissertation

> COL (ret) Lawrence G. Shattuck, PhD Chair, Institutional Review Board 6 October 2020



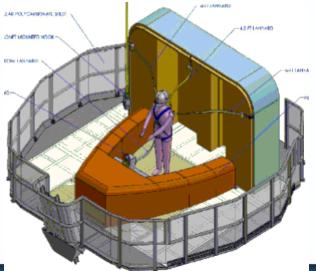
### What's the maximum sea state for small boat recovery?

### Experimentation and/or simulation











### Why are Navy pilots suffering physiological episodes?





Surveys Questionnaires Focus Groups Interviews





How do service member deployments affect their children's performance in school?





Use <u>secondary information</u> to compare performance of school children whose military parents **are** deployed to those children whose parents **are not** deployed.

School grades



- Special classes (advanced or challenged)
- Disciplinary issues
- Number of deployments
- Length of deployments
- Age of children





### **Research**

"A **systematic** investigation designed to develop or contribute to **generalizable** knowledge"

### Human Subject

"A living individual <u>about whom</u> an investigator... conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, *or* (2) identifiable private information" about an individual."

### **Common Types of HSR**

- Surveys, questionnaires
- Interviews
- Equipment testing on people
- Audio/video recording
- Archived data mining
- Task/work analysis
   Yours <u>might</u> be HSR!





# All academic institutions conducting research involving humans have an IRB.

- Research is governed by HHS, DOD, and DON policies
- Online CITI training is required
- Approval can take up to three weeks

# Plan ahead!





### What can do without IRB approval?

- Discuss possible research topics with SMEs
- Work with others on the design of your research
- Talk with people to collect facts

### What <u>first</u> requires IRB approval?

- Recruit people to participate as subjects
- Collect data from people, about themselves. "What do you think about....?" "Why do you think that happened?"
- Access data that is private and identifiable

## If in doubt, ask IRB@nps.edu!



### What happens when HSR is conducted <u>without</u> IRB approval?

- Non-compliance is investigated and reported to the NPS President, DoN, and DoD.
- You may lose all data collected and be unable to complete your coursework or thesis.
- You may not graduate on time.

### If in doubt, ask IRB@nps.edu!



### On your Python Thesis Dashboard

#### **Compliance Approval Tasks**

To plan ahead and consolidate task records, this section provides lists of possible items that need additional approvals.

- Track approval requested and received dates.
- If item(s) are not completed before routing, advisor checks "HOLD" on Thesis Release and Approval Form (TRAF). Updates are allowed after student departs.

Compliance Tasks (by Student) (edit)

Contains items that primarily are the student's responsibility. Click (edit) to update. Required at Proposal



### Specify Methods at Thesis Proposal Stage

	Edit Compliance Items by Student		د ×
	Compliance Items To Be Completed By Studen	t	Date input format: mm/dd/yyyy
	Select all items which apply to your Applied Cyber Operations Capstone Report	Request Submitted	Approval Received / Completed
	None of the items in this section apply		
	Human Subjects protocol review by IRB <sup>1</sup>		
	Travel approval (if fieldwork)		
Scroll	<ul> <li>SERE training (if fieldwork abroad)</li> </ul>		
down	<ul> <li>Country clearance (if fieldwork abroad)</li> </ul>		
to reveal	Review by student's sponsor		
method	O Patent filed (if separate from advisor)		
types	<ul> <li>Copyright permission(s)</li> </ul>		
	Other, student's responsibility		
	Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)		
	Do you plan to engage in any of the following activities in support of your r	esearch activities?	



### Specify HSR (or Not) at Thesis Proposal Stage

Humar	n Resear	ch Protection Program (HRPP)
Do you pla	in to engage	in any of the following activities in support of your research activities?
🕑 Yes	O No	Administer a questionnaire or survey.
🕑 Yes	O No	Conduct focus groups or interviews.
O Yes	C No	Observe human performance directly or indirectly (e.g., online, through analysis of information systems, crowd sourcing, etc.) with or without individuals' knowledge.
O Yes	🕑 No	Audio or video record the activities of humans.
O Yes	🕑 No	Use pre-collected data that contains any information about humans.
O Yes	🕑 No	Test any equipment in which humans will serve as users.

When answering YES to any of the above and before they begin their research, students must fill out a Human Subject Determination Request Form (available at http://my.nps.edu/web/research/irb-home), have it signed by the advisor, send it to the HRPP Specialist at irb@nps.edu, and receive back an IRB determination. In the event the research evolves to include any of the above activities, the student must request a new IRB determination.

If "YES," contact IRB@nps.edu!



# **HRPP and IRB Contact Information**

### NPS IRB website and email: https://my.nps.edu/web/research/irb IRB@nps.edu

### **IRB Contact Information**:

IRB Chair:

Dr. Larry Shattuck Ext: 2473 Igshattu@nps.edu



HRPP Support: Ms. Celine Lai Ext: 2043 <u>clai@nps.edu</u> Ms. Xio Carrion Ext: 1037 Xiomara.carrion@nps.edu

# **Cooperate and Graduate!!**