MED Additional Class Requirements:
[Course Requirements for students enrolled in Master’s Degree level class]
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⇒ As stated in your course syllabus, students who are enrolled in MED level course will be given additional assignments appropriate for the Master’s Degree course requirement.

** Research Paper/Project** 200 pts. Due at the end of semester.
Research Paper Prospectus 50 pts. Date to be announced.
Presentation of Paper/Project 150 pts. Present at the end of semester.

** RESEARCH PAPER/PROJECT**
Write a research paper of minimum 10 pages (APA format), typed, double spaced, and spell-checked, on any topic related to this course. The topic must be approved by the instructor, so please discuss your topic with your instructor prior to beginning your research and writing.

The introduction to your paper should pose the question or problem that your paper will address and should engage your reader’s interest in it. Your summary one-sentence answer to this question will serve as your thesis statement. The body of your paper should use research and your own critical thinking to develop and support the thesis, always paying careful attention to opposing or alternative views. Place your thesis prominently at the end of the introduction, after you have presented the problem that the thesis addresses.

About a third of the way through the course, you will submit to the instructor a prospectus (your introduction statement) that describes the problem or question that you plan to address and shows why the question is (1) problematic and (2) significant.

Prospectus due: *Date ___________
Instructor’s review of introduction: *Date ___________
Submission of Final Paper: *Date ___________
Presentation of the Paper: *Date ___________ * Please see Fumie ASAP.

Requirements:
1. Length of paper: 10 pages minimum, plus an additional bibliographic page.
2. Sources: Use APA guidelines for documentation.
   You will include at least five (5) sources. These sources must be the following:
   - Three sources from either peer review journal articles or books.
   - Two sources from the recommended readings in your textbook.
Evaluation:
Your paper evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

1. How well you follow the requirements of the assignment.
2. Is your thesis focused, and does it introduce an opinion you will defend/refute (within your first introductory paragraph)?
3. To what extent is the evidence/information to support your thesis relevant? Necessary? Complete?
4. How well does the paper evidence depth of thinking (that is, critical thinking and creativity)?
5. How well is the paper organized?
6. How well do the parts connect with each other?
7. To what extent does the text reveal evidence of crafting? Editing? Proofreading?
8. How well does the paper follow APA documentation guidelines?
9. How well do the sources support your argument?
10. How well have you handled the “process” of writing this paper?
11. What format are you using to write this paper? I.e.: Thesis format? Six Traits Writing? Five Parts Essay format?

Writing Procedures:
Do NOT procrastinate. It takes more time and effort than one thinks to complete an adequate search for information. In addition, the writing and editing process itself takes some time. Information about writing techniques and assistance with writing is available through the SMU Learning and Writing Center. If you need help with the writing or editing or “documentation,” please consult with them. However, please remember that you are writing a Master’s level research paper, not the “great American novel.” Our library personnel are very knowledgeable and more than willing to assist in helping you with your reference and bibliographical research process. Please ask for their help and guidance.

Hint on subject and your writing:
- You may pick a controversial position/topic/research paper and either defend or refute the position the author is taking.
- You may pick a project/curriculum that is unique to a school in your local school district that may interest your peers.
- Pick something fun and interesting to write about. Ask yourself, “What do I want to know? - What knowledge and information would benefit me in my future teaching career?” What are you passionate about?
- Spend time on your title. This part is your first argument for the readers. Grab their attention, so they will not be able to put it down until the end.
- Ask. Ask me questions. Ask for my opinion. Ask for my help. You will do and feel better. Ask to see me. It is not an imposition. I will not be offended or think less of you. It is my job, and I LOVE my job.

** The APA in a Nutshell (Pet Peeve List) is given in the class, if you crack the Nutshell items (violation of any of the rules), it will be a double whammy (double the point deduction).