

# PAPER

August 2018

The purpose of a paper is to help students develop written communication skills and the ability to effectively organize ideas and arguments to persuade readers.

The paper should be about 6 pages (no more than 8).

The paper has 5 components:

1. **Thesis:** what is the research question that you will be addressing and what is the motivation for answering this question? The motivation should include background information that helps situate the relevance of your question. What is the main thesis (the answer to this question)?
2. **Literature:** incorporate the views of other scholars who have thoughtfully considered issues related to your question.
3. **Argument:** provide at least one argument for the thesis.
4. **Objections:** raise and respond to at least two objections that may already exist in the literature or that are novel.
5. **Questions:** ask at least two questions that were generated by the research and require further investigation.