

# WRA 110

## Writing: Science and Technology

### Formal Research Report

#### Background:

Earlier assignments for this course gave you opportunities to identify themes and terms for analysis so that you could begin to understand and practice meeting the expectations for writing in higher education. This assignment allows you to continue engaging effective invention, arrangement, revision, style, and delivery practices. It also introduces you to the ways that research and participating in important academic discussions prepare you to use literacy in successful ways across the kinds of writing situations you will find yourself in in higher education and, perhaps, beyond.

#### Writing Context:

Many students come to higher education with only a vague idea of what it means to become a participating member of an academic discipline. Your purpose in this essay is to give students who are new to the academic discipline/field you have chosen an introduction to the expectations for writing, reading, and researching in that discipline. Ultimately, your paper should help your audience understand the ways that literacies (both technological and rhetorical) are used to create and communicate knowledge in the discipline/field you choose to explore.

#### Requirements:

Different academic disciplines have different ways of presenting and analyzing information, different ways of building knowledge, and different ways of presenting knowledge in written forms. This report gives you the opportunity to begin building your own understanding of how writing, reading, and researching operate within a discipline of interest to you. You may choose any discipline you wish to examine for this project. Whichever you choose, you must engage in the following activities:

- Analysis of at least one scholarly article from that discipline
- Analysis of at least one article from a trade publication related to that discipline
- Conduct an interview with a person who teaches major courses and/or does research in that discipline
- Conduct an interview with a person who practices in a field related to that discipline
- You may also want to analyze an introductory piece about economic and quality of life issues related to the literacy work done in that discipline or career field.

Specifically, your report must:

- Be at least be 2,700-3,000 words in length
- Include multiple visuals that communicate specific, important pieces of information; graphs and charts are commonly used for this purpose.
- Strictly adhere to either APA or MLA formatting specifications.
- Include a cover page