

GBA-334 Research Paper Assignment

Description:

The research paper will give you an opportunity to explore in some depth a topic of interest to you pertaining to some aspect of the field of Quantitative Analysis. The paper should be based on your own original research. The assignment is worth 10 percent of your overall course grade.

Attachments:

1. **Research Paper Grading Rubric** this explains how your paper will be evaluated.
2. **Listing of Suggested Topics** in case you are stumped, try one of these topics.

Due Dates:

1. **Research Paper Proposal**: complete *Module 2_ Research Paper Proposal* by Sunday, January 20 at 11:55 PM EST.
2. **Final Research Paper Document**: upload to *Module 7_ Research Paper* by Sunday, February 24 at 11:55 PM EST.

Content:

The research paper should include the following key elements:

- A motivated thesis or main argument of some kind. (Just like in a shorter paper, a research paper should have a central thesis or argument as well as a clear explanation of some tension, puzzle, or question that makes the thesis interesting and important.)
- Your own original research, drawn from one or a combination of the following: academic or popular cultural books, journal articles, medical texts, interviews, participant observation fieldwork, an analysis of websites or media images, etc. Be sure to cite your sources well and to provide lots of rich evidence and examples.
- Your *own analysis* of the information. (Be sure to avoid just a simple long descriptive presentation of information without any analysis or argument.)
- Remember: Your research paper must make use of **at least three (3) reference sources**.

Structure:

1. **Title** page.
2. **Abstract** page. Write a few paragraphs describing the information covered in the paper.
3. **Table of Contents** page including list of tables and/or list of figures if appropriate.
4. **Body** organized into sections with headings.
 - a. **Introduction** should be like Abstract with some teasers to reader to what is in the paper.
 - b. **Research Question** tells the reader exactly what the purpose and scope of your

research will be.

c. Review of Literature describe what you learned from readings you accessed during your research.

d. Methodology tells the reader how you conducted your research as an aid in case they would like to repeat or extend your research.

e. Results explains to the reader the results of your research.

f. Conclusions describe what you learned after completing your research. Use this information to create a recommendation for areas where the research can be applied or extended.

5. Works Cited or References all reference citations shall be in APA format. The paper is submitted via turinitin.com portal tool and will check the originality of your paper. An originality score of 25 percent or less is considered acceptable.

Length:

The paper should be at least 1,500 words, double-spaced, using a sans-serif font set at font size 12 with 1-inch margins on all sides. Pages must be numbered (except title page).

Formatting:

APA formatting is required for this paper. This paper should be considered business or scholarly writing. This style would be used if you were asked by your employer to create a report on the topic. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are important. If you need some help in this area, try to use campus writing lab, online writing lab resources (like Purdue's Online Writing Lab), or other resources you may find locally.

Research Paper Grading Rubric

CATEGORY	Unacceptable (Below Standards)	Acceptable (Meets Standards)	Good (Occasionally Exceeds)	Excellent (Exceeds Standards)	SCORE
Introduction/ Abstract	Does not adequately convey topic. Does not describe subtopics to be reviewed. Lacks adequate thesis statement.	Conveys topic, but not key question(s). Describes subtopics to be reviewed. General thesis statement.	Conveys topic and key question(s). Clearly delineates subtopics to be reviewed. General thesis statement.	Strong introduction of topic's key question(s), terms. Clearly delineates subtopics to be reviewed. Specific thesis statement.	10 points
Focus & Sequencing	Little evidence material is logically organized into topic, subtopics or related to topic. Many transitions are unclear or nonexistent.	Most material clearly related to subtopic, main topic. Material may not be organized within subtopics. Attempts to provide variety of transitions	All material clearly related to subtopic, main topic and logically organized within subtopics. Clear, varied transitions linking subtopics, and main topic.	All material clearly related to subtopic, main topic. Strong organization and integration of material within subtopics. Strong transitions linking subtopics, and main topic.	20 points
Support	Few sources supporting thesis. Sources insignificant or unsubstantiated.	Sources generally acceptable but not peer-reviewed research (evidence) based.	Sources well selected to support thesis with some research in support of thesis.	Strong peer-reviewed research based support for thesis.	15 points
Conclusion	Does not summarize evidence with respect to thesis statement. Does not discuss the impact of researched material on topic.	Review of key conclusions. Some integration with thesis statement. Discusses impact of researched material on topic.	Strong review of key conclusions. Strong integration with thesis statement. Discusses impact of researched material on topic.	Strong review of key conclusions. Strong integration with thesis statement. Insightful discussion of impact of the researched material on topic.	15 points
Grammar & Mechanics	Grammatical errors or spelling & punctuation substantially detract from the paper.	Very few grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors interfere with reading the paper.	Grammatical errors or spelling & punctuation are rare and do not detract from the paper.	The paper is free of grammatical errors and spelling & punctuation.	20 points
APA Style & Communication	Errors in APA style detract substantially from the paper. Word choice is informal in tone. Writing is choppy, with many awkward or unclear passages.	Errors in APA style are noticeable. Word choice occasionally informal in tone. Writing has a few awkward or unclear passages.	Rare errors in APA style that do not detract from the paper. Scholarly style. Writing has minimal awkward or unclear passages.	No errors in APA style. Scholarly style. Writing is flowing and easy to follow.	10 points
Citations & References	Reference and citation errors detract significantly from paper.	Two references or citations missing or incorrectly written.	One reference or citations missing or incorrectly written.	All references and citations are correctly written and present.	10 points

Total Points:

Suggested Research Paper Topics

1. Applying quantitative techniques to financial markets.
2. Green logistics quantitative ideas.
3. Decision support systems.
4. Flaws in statistical thinking.
5. Applications of probability theory.
6. Solve and discuss any chapter 3 (Decision Theory) case problem.
7. Utility theory applications for business.
8. Bayesian statistical modeling.
9. Decision theory applications in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
10. Game Theory applications.
11. Solve and discuss any chapter 4 (Regression Models) case problem.
12. Regression models in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
13. Solve and discuss any chapter 5 (Forecasting) case problem.
14. Using forecast accuracy measures to evaluate hurricane track forecasts.
15. Forecasting in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
16. Using seasonal forecasts for economic data (or demographic, census, etc... data).
17. Using inventory control models in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
18. Using inventory control models to drive advertising in social media (or web).
19. Using linear programming models in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
20. Using linear programming models to manage television advertising.
21. In depth explanation of the four special cases of linear programming.
22. Using assignment/transportation models in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
23. Using project management in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).
24. The origin and development of PERT/CPM project management techniques.
25. Using queuing theory models in business (or government, or military, or non-profits).