



HONORS PAPERS / PROJECTS

Recommended length of Research Bibliography

Minimum requirement: the number of citations on a work cited page should correspond to the number of pages of the body of the paper, i.e. a 5 page paper should have AT LEAST 5 sources on the works cited page.

These citations should include the following formats:

- At least 2-3 books (paper or electronic).
- At least 3-5 journal (not magazine or newspaper) articles (paper or electronic). Articles should not be editorials, book reviews, movie reviews, or abstracts.
- No more than 2-3 Websites which meet basic evaluation standards for authorship, accuracy, timeliness, and bias.
- Statistics should be included when applicable to the topic.
- Primary vs. secondary source material – may want to make the distinction between the two and require primary sources instead of secondary.
- May want to promote the inclusion of a “literature review” as part of all honors papers. See handout.

From the MLA Handbook, 5th edition, p. 2:

The research paper is generally based on primary research, secondary research, or a combination of the two. Primary research is the study of a subject through firsthand observation and investigation, such as analyzing a literary or historical text, a film, or a performance; conducting a survey or an interview; or carrying out a laboratory experiment. Primary sources include statistical data, historical documents, and works of literature and art. Secondary research is the examination of studies that other researchers have made of a subject. Examples of secondary sources are books and articles about political issues, historical events, scientific debates, or literary works.

Chaffey College librarians will be happy to assist you with your researching needs!
How?

- In person: Monday – Thursday 8-8; Friday 8-6; Saturday 8-4
- Telephone for quick reference: 909 941-2419
- Email for quick reference: library@chaffey.edu
- Chaffey College Library web address: www.chaffey.edu/library