Transitioning to Graduate Level Writing
Thursday, July 30, 8:00 PM ET
Presenter – Molly Starkweather
Kaplan University Writing Center

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Please click here to view this recorded workshop:
http://khe2.adobeconnect.com/p5a2hfcfsfs/
Agenda

- Identify the main differences between the purposes of undergraduate and graduate level writing.
- Recognize the characteristics of graduate level research.
- Identify the most common types of graduate level writing.
- Remember to refresh the basics.
Undergraduate and Graduate Education

The main difference between undergraduate and graduate education is in terms of purpose and in accomplishment. Undergraduate education is a foundational experience in higher learning, while graduate education involves mastery of higher learning in a particular area.
What are the purposes of research?

Undergraduate research is intended to form a foundation of higher learning before focusing broadly within a particular area of study in order to prepare for a profession or further study within a particular field or in a related field. For example, a Bachelor of Science in Education student will take general courses in mathematics, writing, and science before taking major courses in pedagogy, assessment, and psychology geared for educators. The student might begin teaching immediately and/or pursue graduate studies in education.
What are the purposes of grad research?

Graduate research dives deeper within a major area of study to join in more thorough scholarly discussion of topics related to that field of study.

Example

- A Master of Arts in English student will take courses and seminars focusing on very specific areas of language and literature (mental illness within Shakespearean tragedy, for instance) along with special requirements (like foreign language proficiency) culminating in a very thorough assessment (a comprehensive examination, a thesis, or other comparable capstone project) of a student's mastery of an area.
Writing a Case Study Analysis

Case studies in many professional scenarios

- Analyzing a case study involves considering a scenario within a professional context and asks the student to consider all facts and discuss the situation in depth.

KUWC Resource on Case Study Analysis

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KUWC Resource on Case Study Analysis
Writing a Review of Literature

After examining many articles
- The purpose of a review of literature is to discuss the relationships among ideas around a particular topic covered in the literature of a particular field of study.

Example
- Efforts for including special education students in the mainstream classroom

KUWC Resource on Literature Reviews
Writing a Graduate Thesis

Thesis offers original research
- A thesis covers a particular topic or question, exploring the background information from a thorough study of the existing literature, conducting original research studies and/or experimentation.

KUWC Resource on the Graduate Thesis
Remember to Refresh the Basics

When gaining new, challenging knowledge, it is easy to lose sight of the foundational skills from foundational skill sets.
Remember the Role of Sources

- Remember the role of sources is to support the writer’s assertions (not the other way around).
- Cite a source whenever it is used in the text.
Understand the parts of APA citation.

Paraphrases, summaries, and quotes are ways to use another author’s information in your writing, and in order to avoid plagiarism and to also show you are an ethical and credible researcher, you must attribute that information to the source with a citation. APA citation style has two parts: in-text citations and full reference citations.

In-text citations
- Use in the body of the paper
- Show what information comes from outside sources
- Include author and year for paraphrases/summaries
- Include author, year, and page (p.) or paragraph (para.) number for quotations

Full reference citations
- Place at the end of the document on a reference list
- Include enough information to lead the reader to the source
- Follow a standard structure

Short demonstration found here
Two resources we recommend every academic writer at Kaplan have handy when writing an APA paper is Basic Citation Guidelines and Common Citations in APA Format. These resources cover all the basics of how to quote, paraphrase, and summarize, how to cite, and how to format APA citations.

**Citation Resources:**

- Basic Citation Guidelines
- Common Citations in Format: APA, 6th Edition
Develop Paragraphs Thoroughly

- Make sure paragraphs are developed using the PIE method.
- Link to Paragraph Development Tutorial
Use Appropriate Wording

- Choose the most accurate, not the most fancy, wording.
- Link to Honing Word Choice Tutorial
Sentence Structure

Make sure that all sentences have a clear subject and predicate.

Link to Sentence Structure Tutorial
Connect with the KUWC's public webpage. You can actually Google and find this page. This is also a great way for you to stay connected to the KUWC through Facebook and Twitter. Many of our resources are here as well.
The best time to do a paper review in the Kaplan University Writing Center is after you have written your first draft. When you come to us early, we can help you the most by helping you with the structure of your paper. Many students send papers at the last minute because they want us to simply proofread their paper. However, KUWC writing tutors do not simply proofread the paper for you; we want to help you learn to write and proofread your own papers. You can submit a first draft, and then submit a later draft if you need further help on an assignment.

If you need help before you write the first draft, you can use live tutoring. During live tutoring, you can ask questions and brainstorm with a tutor. Live tutors can help you with other stages in the paper writing process as well. Come visit us. We can be found under the My Studies tab, then under Academic Support Center.
On the main Academic Support Center page, you will see the Writing Center links. These include Live Tutoring, Paper Review Service, the Writing Reference Library, Citation Guidelines, Workshops, English Language Learner, and Fundamental writing help. Notice, you can access the Kaplan Guide to Successful Writing on the right hand side in both print and audio form. Come visit us.
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Workshops are recorded and recording links, with an accompanying PowerPoint, are posted on the Writing Center Workshop page after the workshop.

Kaplan University Writing Center Resources

Introductory Video  
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Writing Center

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Additional Kaplan University Writing Center Resources

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