

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY II
Term Paper - Paper Requirements
Dr. Mathew

Use the "Vital Signs" article from Discover Magazine to select a *case study*. To access the electronic version of the magazine, see instructions at the end of this handout. You may also use a **case study from one of the approved databases** as long as it has information on all the topics requested below. The library website has several handouts on how to access the databases.

1. For the term paper each student will use a different "Vital Signs" article. As you decide on a "Vital Signs" article, students are required to e-mail the instructor the following information: *the month and year of the 'vital signs' article along with the disease discussed in the case study. **Do not send the title of the vital signs article, just the name of the disease discussed in the article. Send in three diseases with the corresponding case study information (month and year only).** This will ensure that at least one of your top three diseases of your choice will be reserved for you.* A reserved topic cannot be used by other students. So check with the instructor to ensure that you have a unique topic.
2. The paper should discuss a *diseases relating to the organ systems discussed in this course (A&P-II)*. The case study from the Vital Signs article selected should be on the disease topic selected for this paper.
3. Students should make sure that the instructor receives the project by the due date. The project should be turned in to the instructor and not left in the mailbox or with anyone else.
4. The first part of your paper will be a discussion of the case study you have chosen from the Discover magazine. This should be presented in the case study format described below.
5. The second part of the article should contain the part titled "Current Research". This part should contain information researched from peer reviewed journals and other reputable journals (available via the electronic databases accessible through the library web site). The information presented here should be a **summary of your readings**. More details follow below.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAPER:

I. CASE STUDY FORMAT (use the following as subheadings in the written report)

1. **Patient Family Background**
2. **Chief Complaint** (including symptoms and recent history)
3. **Initial Diagnosis** (or diagnoses)
 - a. This section should include background information of the initial diagnosis (diagnoses). Be sure to include all initial diagnoses made by qualified medical personnel and any tests done to help determine the diagnoses.
 - b. Include a brief research on the initial diagnosis with references (keep this brief, because there is another section called 'current research')

4. **Treatment of initial diagnosis:** Explain the treatment and how it helped with the initial diagnosis. If no treatment mentioned in article, please research and include information on how it can be treated.
5. **Final Diagnosis**
 - a. Same as initial diagnosis?
 - b. If not, include background information about this diagnosis with references
6. **Treatment of final diagnosis**
7. **Patient status at end of article**

II. CURRENT RESEARCH - REQUIREMENTS

1. This is the most important part of your research paper. Please include a detailed report on the disease based on current research. This paper should be a discussion on the final diagnosis of the disease in the case study.
2. Explain the cutting edge information available about the disease; a brief description of:
 - a. **History of the disease:** briefly mention the how prevalent this disease has been in the U.S and around the world in the past, what treatments were available and how the disease has affected the human population.
 - b. **Symptoms and causes:** the main identifying traits associated with the disease and what are the cause for the disease. This can be elaborate in the next section on 'physiological effects of the disease'.
 - c. **Physiological effects of the disease** at the cellular, tissue and organ system levels as relevant. What mechanisms fail at the cellular level that disrupts homeostasis? What are the effects on the body as a result of this disease at the tissue and organ level? How does the disruption in the functioning of the organs and tissues in the specific system being researched, affect other systems ?
 - d. **Treatment(s)** available and any side effect and/or drawbacks associated with each kind of treatment. Treatments should be discussed as to how it affects cellular processes as well as the function of the affected tissue and/or organ(s). In discussing the treatment options make sure to include a discussion on how it affects aspects of the metabolism other than the affected organ.
3. An account of the **cutting edge research** and the **direction** in which treatment(s) for the disease are headed should be included. The paper should also include a brief summary of **your conclusion** of your research. You should surmise the main points of your paper here. Please refer to the **grading grid** for a detailed list of topics to be included here.
4. **Minimum** of 10 sources of reference (these should be from scientific journals with at least 2 of the articles from peer reviewed journals; the rest can be from 'good' web sites). The textbook and the vital signs article should not be used as reference.

5. *Use all the references materials adequately. Do not use one or two papers exclusively as a source of information for your research paper. This includes the peer-reviewed journals (refer to the grading grid for point allocation on this requirement).*
6. Include **tables to summarize and analyze** the information presented in the text. **Relevant pictures** should also be included. Please do not use pictures and tables that do not contribute significantly to the topic of discussion (as space fillers).

Accessing the Vital Signs article via Lone Star Library:

Use the instructions posted at this link on how to access vital signs on Discover magazine :

<http://mavericksresearch.lonestar.edu/vitalsigns>

Or this link:

<http://mavericksresearch.lonestar.edu/c.php?g=109621&p=922867>

A few useful websites:

Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov

National Library of Medicine/PubMed: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/>

OncoLink: <http://www.oncolink.org/>

Texas Cancer Data Center: <http://www.tcdc.uth.tmc.edu/>

American Cancer Society: <http://www.cancer.org/index.html>

Journal of American Medical Association: <http://jama.ama-assn.org/contents-by-date.0.shtml>

PubMed

Google Scholar

Montgomery College Library computer has a subscription to The Electric Library; it is a full-text database. You can access this web site off campus ONLY if you have a library card or you can access it in the Library. <http://www.elibrary>.