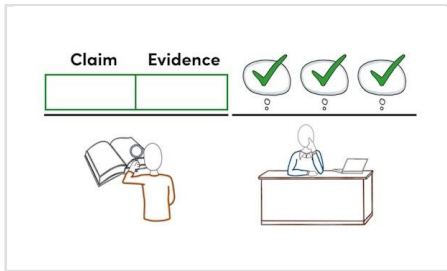


## Lesson Plan

This lesson plan is designed to help you teach using a Common Craft video. Use the information below to introduce the video and then follow the video with discussion questions and other resources.



[commoncraft.com/video/research-papers](https://commoncraft.com/video/research-papers)

**ISTE Standard:**

**Knowledge Constructor, 3d**

**ACRL Info Literacy Frame:**

**Scholarship as a Conversation,  
Research as Inquiry**

# Research Papers

**Explained by Common Craft**

Nearly every student is asked to write a research paper and this video illustrates how research papers are not simply an assignment, but an opportunity to practice important skills that are useful in the real world.

## Learning Outcomes

- Explain the value of a research paper
- List key steps to take when writing a research paper such as searching broadly and considering opposing viewpoints
- Describe how a claim, evidence, and defensible points work together in a research paper to form an argument

## Discussion Questions

### Q #1

In which ways can you practice the method of developing an argument?

### Q #2

How might developing a strong argument be beneficial to you in the real world?

## Knowledge Check Q&A

**Q**

What is a thesis?

**A**

It is a statement that frames what you expect and why it makes sense. It has two parts, the claim and the evidence that supports it.

**Q**

True or False. At their heart, research papers are arguments designed to influence others.

**A**

True.

**Q**

Multiple Choice. Which of the following techniques is used when writing a research paper? A) Search broadly B) Learn as much about your topic as you can C) Anticipate questions or concerns D) All of the above

**A**

D) All of the above

# Resources for Learning More

## Purdue Owl Writing Lab

“Argument Papers”

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/724/01/>

## American University, Academic Support Center, Writing Lab,

“Ten steps for writing a research paper”

<http://www.american.edu/ocl/asac/upload/ten-steps-for-writing-research-papers.pdf>

## Harvard College Writing Center

“Counterargument”

<https://writingcenter.fas.harvard.edu/pages/counter-argument>

## University of Washington, Odegaard Writing & Research

Center

Claims, claims, claims

<https://depts.washington.edu/owrc/Handouts/Claims%20Claims%20Claims.pdf>