Guidelines for IB 168 Term Paper

FORMAT
Length: 5 pages, no shorter than 4.5 pages. References do not count toward the 5 page limit.
Font: size 12 font
Margins: 1 inch on all sides
Spacing: double spaced

CONTENT
Your paper should focus on a particular plant family. This need not be a family that we have covered (or will cover) in the lab. The paper should include more than just one taxon within the family and include some comparative aspect. For example, your paper could focus on something related to the evolution or phylogenetic relationships of plants within a specified family. Ecological comparisons across taxa of a family would be fine as well, as long as the context is comparative and relates to the evolution of those plants.

**Make sure to get your topic approved by your GSI before you write your paper.**

Include the following sections:
• Title
• Body
• References cited -- You must cite your sources throughout the paper and list them under the References Cited section at the end of your paper. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and you will receive a failing grade. See the section on Citation Style at the end of these guidelines for how to cite sources.

SOURCES
Please include primary sources in your research paper. The following information on primary and secondary sources was taken from the UC Berkeley website, (http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/PrimarySources.html):

WHAT ARE PRIMARY SOURCES?
Primary sources enable the researcher to get as close as possible to what actually happened during an historical event or time period. A primary source reflects the individual viewpoint of a participant or observer.

E.g., Published materials (books, magazine and journal articles, newspaper articles) written at the time about a particular event. While these are sometimes accounts by participants, in most cases they are written by journalists or other observers. The important thing is to distinguish between material written at the time of an event as a kind of report, and material written much later, as historical analysis.

WHAT ARE SECONDARY SOURCES?
A secondary source is a work that interprets or analyzes an historical event or
phenomenon. It is generally at least one step removed from the event. A recent article that evaluates and analyzes the relationship between the feminist movement and the labor movement in turn-of-the-century England is an example of a secondary source; if you were to look at the bibliography of this article you would see that the author’s research was based on both primary sources such as labor union documents, speeches and personal letters as well as other secondary sources. Textbooks and encyclopedias are also examples of secondary sources.

If you are not sure of the difference between primary and secondary sources, please ask your GSI.

CITATION STYLE FOR TERM PAPER
(adapted from Prof. G. Sposito’s guidelines)
Every time you use someone else's words or ideas, you MUST give them credit. This applies to direct quotations as well as paraphrases. It is better to paraphrase an author than to quote the author directly.

There are two parts to a citation: (1) in the text, (2) in the bibliography. Every citation in the text must also be in the bibliography. There are many styles for citing references. Please use the following style.

IN THE TEXT OF YOUR PAPER:
The author and year of the publication should be provided with the quote or paraphrase that you are citing.

Examples:

On Barro Colorado Island there is more than one peak of fruit production (Foster 1990).

or

Foster (1990) states that there is more than one peak of fruit production on Barro Colorado Island.

If you use the exact words of the author, the phrase must appear in quotes.

Example:

Foster (1990) states "fruit production had peaks in both January and June on Barro Colorado Island".

If there are two authors, both names should be included.

Example:

Desjardin and Hemmes (1997) describe the kinds of mushroom that can be found on the Hawaiian Islands.
If there are three or more authors, use only the first author’s name followed by et al. (Latin: “and others”).

Example:
The United States accounts for half of the toxic waste produced annually worldwide (Cunningham et al. 2003, p. 27).

Interviews are cited as "personal communication" and are NOT included in the bibliography.

Example:
Coconut palms in Panama are currently suffering a lethal epidemic (G. S. Gilbert, personal communication).

IN THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE PAPER:

Books
Author(s). Year. Title. Publisher, City of publication. Number of pages.

Chapter in an edited book
Chapter author(s). Year. Chapter title. Pages. Editor. Book title. Publisher, Place of publication.

Article in a journal or magazine
Author(s). Year. Title. Name of journal Volume: pages.

Article in a newspaper
Author(s). Title. Name of newspaper, date.

Web site
Name of site, World Wide Web. URL. Date of visit to the site.
BIBLIOGRAPHY AT THE END OF THE PAPER
All citations should be arranged in alphabetical order at the end of the paper.

References cited


