I-Search Paper Information

***The Format for the Researched essay is in The Little Brief Handbook; look only at the section on the MLA style, not the APA style. Note the following additional requirements:

---**TOPIC**: your intended major/career you wish to pursue, which is the reason you are attending NorthWest Arkansas Community College.

---**AUDIENCE**: the people in this class who are NOT familiar with your future profession/major.

---**PURPOSE**: to tell your audience what it takes to be a professional of the type you wish to be such as what education is necessary, what experience is necessary, what is the possible future of that profession, how do I get there, etc.

---**LENGTH**: 5-6 typed pages of text minimum (NOT counting the Works Cited page or graphs or charts or other visual aids).

---**SOURCES**: 5 minimum, with ONLY ONE from any of the categories listed below.

---**VARIETY**: (CATEGORIES OF SOURCES) books, magazines, newspapers, scholarly journals, videotapes, web sites, computer databases, reference texts, etc. If a source is found on the Internet, such as a magazine, it is still a magazine. An Internet source is defined as one that exists only on the Internet such as a personal or professional web page.

---**BALANCE**: the sources should be used evenly without over-relying on any ONE source. This means that basing your paper on a book and then using nine other sources to meet the required minimum will adversely affect your grade.

---**RECENTNESS**: sources should not be too old (a ten-year-old Encyclopedia is no longer current enough to be of use to your topic.)

---**RELIABILITY**: sources should be accurate, trustworthy and as unbiased as possible.

---**RELEVANCE**: sources must be relevant to your topic and not used to satisfy VARIETY or BALANCE—see these above.

---**PHOTOCOPIES**: all citations must have a photocopy of the page from the source from which you got the quote, paraphrase, summary, chart or any information. (This includes Internet sources. YOUR notes on any audio or visual sources, as well as the publication information, will take the place of photocopies in this area.) These should be arranged and placed at the end of the paper in the order of use in your paper, not in alphabetical order, as a Works Cited Page would appear.

---**FORMAT**: The MLA Documentation (Works Cited) and Citation (parenthetical citations) Method will be used for this research project. The Little Brief Handbook contains almost all you should need to know to document your sources but three web sites can help when documenting hard to define online sources.

   --http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html
   --http://www.mla.org/
   --http://wps.ablongman.com/long_aaron_lbb_2/0,9376,1482156,-,00.html

Additional information on the I-Search Project is in LB Brief and will be provided by me in other handouts. Be sure to read the information on Plagiarism and be fully aware of the consequences of committing this act. Your College catalog has information on “Academic Dishonesty” on pp. 39-40.