Integrating Research

USING SUPPORT, CREDIBILITY, AND WRITING STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE YOUR WRITING
What’s the point of using research?

Research:
- Supports your paper’s point for your reader by:
  - Providing facts and data
  - Offering an analysis of the subject matter
- Adds credibility to your work by:
  - Showing you’re knowledgeable about the subject
  - Giving an expert point-of-view
How to Integrate Research

- Direct Quotes
- Paraphrasing
- Summarizing
How to Integrate Research

- A direct quote is the use of the exact words from a source.
- Direct Quotes:
  - Should be used when the statement is impactful and precise
  - When the source is an expert in your paper’s topic
How to Integrate Research

- Paraphrasing is restating someone else’s ideas in your own words.
- Paraphrasing:
  - Should be used to maintain flow in your essay
  - Can be used when discussing concepts and definitions
How to Integrate Research

- A summary provides an overview of an article or text. It conveys the text’s main idea and is significantly shorter than the original work.

- Summarizing:
  - Gets a large amount of information to your readers in a few sentences
  - Should provide readers with a clear understanding of the original text, even if they’ve never read it
  - Can be used when conveying definitions or positions about a topic
Using Research in Your Essay

- It is important to use research as support for your paper’s topic.
- Research should enhance your essay and provide information not commonly known to your reader.
- Research is used to support statements and opinions you make about your topic.
- You should be critical when choosing your research.
  - For more information on how to choose good sources, check with the Digital Library or your instructor.
Using Research in Your Essay

- Introducing research to your readers
  - Framing
  - Signal Phrases
- Discussing research within your essay
  - Rephrasing
  - Connecting
Introducing Research

- Framing
  - Introduces your research and discusses its importance.
    - How does your research specifically address a concept in your paper?
    - Why are you using this particular source or quote?
Introducing Research

Framing Example:

In Mark Royal’s article “No More Digital Violence” the author argues that video games are a primary force in the increase of youth violence. Yet the question of whether or not art influences life, particularly violence, has been discussed at length for years. Sociologist Herbert Humbebraun believes that video game violence is similar to that violence acted out in plays in ancient Greece. He states “we can see mirrored sociological necessity between the violence in Greek plays and that of video games – that vicarious ability to shed tendencies that are otherwise morally or socially unacceptable” (57). While a majority of social and psychological researchers seem to parallel this belief, other voices have recently entered the discussion. According to Representative Mark Smith, Republican from North Dakota, video games “encourages children to engage their world through domination and violence” (Jasper 47). The discussion about these video games seems to be one where science and politics are colliding in a heated battle not unlike those fought over climate change or evolution.
Introducing Research

- **Signal Phrases**
  - Alert your reader to a transition from your words and ideas to that of a source.
  - Often incorporate a verb attributing the researched concept to your reader.
  - Can let your reader know why your source is an expert on your topic.
  - For example,
    - Smith discusses
    - Johnson argues
    - Dr. Thomas, an expert in biochemical engineering, suggests
      - (notice that Dr. Thomas has been positioned as having authority on this topic)
In Mark Royal’s article “No More Digital Violence” the author argues that video games are a primary force in the increase of youth violence. Yet the question of whether or not art influences life, particularly violence, has been discussed at length for years. *Sociologist Herbert Humbebraun believes that video game violence is similar to that violence acted out in plays in ancient Greece. He states “we can see mirrored sociological necessity between the violence in Greek plays and that of video games – that vicarious ability to shed tendencies that are otherwise morally or socially unacceptable”* (57). While a majority of social and psychological researchers seem to parallel this belief, other voices have recently entered the discussion. *According to Representative Mark Smith, Republican from North Dakota, video games “encourages children to engage their world through domination and violence”* (Jasper 47). The discussion about these video games seems to be one where science and politics are colliding in a heated battle not unlike those fought over climate change or evolution.
Discussing Research

- Rephrasing
  - Explains the point of the source material to your reader
  - Helps your reader understand how your source supports a claim within your paper
Discussing Research

- Rephrasing Example:

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Discussing Research

Connecting

- Helps your reader understand how your source connects to your paper’s topic or argument
- Shows how your points relate to each other
- Helps transition your reader between opposing sources
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Let’s get started!