

Lukeion Latin Transition Secundus Research Paper



What is a Research Paper?

A research paper is a scholarly assessment of facts presented in a clear and logical way that represents the author's **original thinking** on a particular subject. Research papers are not creative writing assignments, in that any statement made by the author must be backed up with examples. Nor is a research paper just a collection of facts. Rather than listed willy-nilly, facts are used as examples by the author in strategic ways to substantiate larger points the author is making. In short, a research paper is an expanded essay, supported by examples, which present your own argument, evaluation or interpretation about a body of material.

Paper Topic and Goal: The goal of this research paper is to create a portrait of the ideal Roman woman based on what appear as desirable or undesirable characteristics found in the readings. This portrait is designed to be overarching – something that is pertinent to Roman culture as a whole, not just to one segment of society. For this reason, evidence needs to come from all sources: graffiti, epigrams, poems, prose, letters, epitaphs, etc. You may find when analyzing your facts that factors such as the woman's role, status, the specific views of individual authors, date of the writing, etc. may cloud the issue of a simple female role model. This is fine. You should just be able to explain or at least hypothesize what circumstances dictate deviations from the usual expectations. It is also completely legitimate to discuss what an ideal Roman woman **is not**, along with what an ideal Roman woman **is**, as long as it can be supported with facts. If you are stuck, the *mos maiorum* is a good starting place to help you assess the facts you have gathered.

Sources: Everything you need for this paper can be found in your readings and your own brain. This paper should be based on primary sources (the original Latin readings) themselves and not secondary sources (what other scholars have had to say on the matter). No outside research is necessary nor is any bibliography, however you may need to get original book and line numbers for some examples. See the Examples and Citations section below for how to find original book and line numbers and properly include and cite Latin examples in your paper.



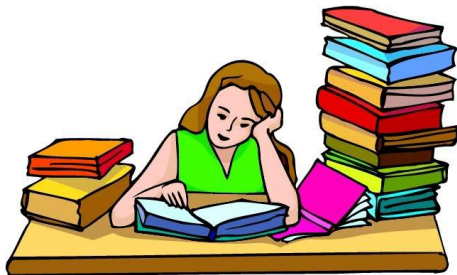
Due Date: *The paper is due **Monday, April 20 by 7:00 pm ET**. One point will be deducted for every hour or partial hour that the paper is late. Papers will not be accepted after 24 hours unless there are major extenuating circumstances such as alien invasion or leopard attack.*

Examples and Citations

All examples used in your research paper should come from the primary Latin sources and be given first in Latin and then followed by your own English translation. Be sure to include only the portion of the text that is pertinent to the point you are making.

Here is the proper way to include and cite Latin examples with English translations in your paper:

- All Latin words should be presented in *italics*
- Your own English translation of the Latin should follow in regular print (not italics)
- Neither the Latin nor the English needs quotation marks
- Graffiti and epigrams should be cited with their CIL or CLE number following the Latin and then English translation: e.g. *Virgula Tertio suo: indecens es.* Virgula to her own Tertius: You are indecent (*CIL* 4.1881) The CIL or CLE should be in italics since it is the abbreviation for a book title. Do not include any references from *Scribblers, Sculptors and Scribes* – no page numbers or titles, etc.
- Examples from literary works, letters, epigrams, etc. should include a citation in text after the last word in the sentence but before the period like this (Vergil, *Aeneid* 4. 567-8). You put this citation after the English translation since the Latin and English go together.
 - Do not use footnotes or endnotes ever for any reason for primary source citations.
 - When citing a passage from your reading, kindly do not give me the page number of your reader, nor web links to Perseus, or an online dictionary: find the actual location of the passage in the actual Latin text. You may need to use a source like *The Latin Library* to get the line numbers for some of the readings: <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/> *Scribblers, Sculptors and Scribes* generally has the original source information following their passages before the vocabulary help.
 - Ancient passages are cited like the Bible, with which many of you are familiar. For example, you may know the citation John 3:16. This citation refers not only to the author but also the “book” of the Bible by the same name. The 3:16 refers to the chapter (3) and the verse (16). Your citations will look similar except please separate the “chapter” number – also sometimes known as the “book” – with a period instead of a colon so that it looks like this at the end of the line but before the period (*John* 3.16).
 - Citations should be **IN TEXT** and be located between these things: ()
 - i. First, provide the author’s (last only) name – Vergil
 - ii. Second, provide the abbreviated text name—*Aeneid* (put the title in italics like this because book titles are meant to be in italics.)
 - iii. Third, provide the book number/paragraph number (if applicable)—4
 - iv. Fourth, provide the line number ranges—567-8
 - v. It should now look like this: (Vergil, *Aeneid* 4.567-8).



WARNING! Be sure to give yourself enough time to properly cite your examples. If you do not have citations ready on your research chart/notes, this process can take longer than you think. If you are unclear about how citations work, ask right away for clarification.

The Details:

- Length: 1800-2400 words
- Double-spaced
- Times New Roman 12 point font.
- Please provide your name, date, and the name of the class, single-spaced in the upper right hand corner of the first page.
- The introductory paragraph should include a thesis statement that puts forth the argument you will be making or the conclusion(s) you have reached that you will be proving.
- The body of the paper should lay out the case that proves, with examples, this argument or conclusion(s). Anything that is not directly pertinent to substantiating your point(s) should be left out. *Irrelevant information is seen as “padding an essay” (trying to get to the proper word length by just shoving stuff in) by instructors and will result in lower grades.* If you have trouble writing 1800 words, it is likely that either your portrait is too narrow and you should explore other facets of a woman’s character, or you do not have enough examples to substantiate your points. **The best research papers will explore as many angles of a given topic as the evidence will allow.** Unsubstantiated points are permissible as long as they are kept to a minimum and are clearly labeled as conjecture.
- Your concluding paragraph should not just provide a recap of what has been already stated, but should entice the reader with other avenues that could be explored, ideas about what could change or flesh-out your conclusions, the importance of your findings, etc.
- **Tone:** Research papers are scholarly endeavors and the tone should reflect this. Avoid using the 1st person, colloquialisms, contractions, slang unless it is a translation of Latin slang, and any other non-professional phrasing.
- **Tone part 2:** Research papers are supposed to be understandable and accessible to people. Avoid using pompous or grandiose language.
- Save it in a .doc or .docx format and send it to me as an email attachment. *Please no .pdf format!*

Assessment: Your research paper will be assessed based on the six metrics used for all Lukeion Project Research Papers:

- 20% Focus (Cohesiveness)
- 20% Development (analysis, reasons and argumentation)
- 20% Organization (Sequence of Ideas)
- 20% Use of Sources (including proper citing of Latin examples; the Research charts/notes you turned in are included as 10% of this)
- 10% Technique (Clear and appropriate writing)
- 10% Proofreading (Mechanics and formatting)

AI Policy

The use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) on any writing assignment is prohibited at The Lukeion Project. All writing assignments will be examined using 2 AI-detector programs. **Any assignment where the use of AI is detected will be considered cheating.** The assignment will receive a zero grade and the student may be subject to expulsion from the class.