Drafting and Revision

ECS 15

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Analyze the Assignment

• Highlight the assignment
• Notes stages & requirements
• The better you do each stage, the more useful feedback you will get
Writing Process

• Draft and Revision not “Perfect drafting”
  – Discovery draft = exploratory
  – Re-vison = global holistic evaluation & change
  – Editing = local corrections

• A good block of time without distraction

• The beginning of the process is often the most difficult
Drafting

- Focus on developing ideas
- Freewriting
- Separate creator and critic
- Be able to take risks
- Don’t interrupt thinking to edit
- Use writing as tool for inquiry
- Ex: cover your screen and just type
Revision

• Global view, holistic evaluation, overall structure
  – It is way more than local editing
• What fits where (or nowhere)
• What else do you need
• How the whole story(idea) flows
  – Be coherent
Requirements

• Intro: explains the problem or question
• Describe the topic: present research results in detail
• Discussion or Analysis
• Answer the analytic question you posed
• Conclusion: summarize main points & maybe go beyond: explain significance
Research Process

• Look for recent academic articles (more recent research than books)
• Look for a review of the literature: synthesis of findings on a topic
• Assess the validity of sources
• Base all opinions on valid research as evidence
References

• Cite sources in text in APA format
• Bibliography or Works Cited at the end
• TIPS:
  – keep track of sources as you research and write
  – Distinguish quotes from paraphrases in your notes and drafts
Integrating info from sources

- When to quote? Rarely if ever
- Only when exact words are necessary to your argument
  - conclusion isn’t accurate to results or
  - conclusion isn’t qualified enough (say, for number and diversity of participants)

- Guideline: 0-2 quotations MAX
Paraphrase

• Restate in your own words & syntax
• Select what is relevant

• Avoid plagiophrase:
  – Paraphrase that is too close to original in wording and syntax (sentence structure)
Celera of Rockville, Maryland, is a private company that last year (2000) completed a map of all human genes. Formed just three years ago, the company instigated a contentious race with the federally funded Human Genome Project when company officials announced they would create a map in only three years, while the government project had been working on it for about a decade.

(http://www.wirednews.cmo/news/tecnology/0,1282,41306,00.html)
Plagiophrase

• Six years ago (2000), Celera of Rockville, Maryland, a private company, completed a map of all human genes. Formed just three years before, the company sparked a contentious race with the federally funded Human Genome Project when company officials announced they would create a map in only three years, while the government project had been working on it for about a decade.
Paraphrase

In 2000 a private company, Celera of Rockville, Maryland, beat the federally funded Human Genome Project to the goal of mapping all human genes.

(http://www.wirednews.cmo/news/tecnology/0,1282,41306,00.html)