












## Scholarly Writing Do's and Don'ts

1.  Do rely strictly on scholarly journals and books to identify relevant literature.
2.  If online sources are used to identify relevant literature, do rely only on sources from recognized professional organizations (e.g., APA), governmental agencies (e.g., NIMH), or other credible sources of scholarly material.
3.  **Do NOT use Wikipedia!** 
4.  Do use direct quotations **sparingly**, and only to make a point that cannot be adequately conveyed without the quotation; make sure the source of the quotation is appropriately acknowledged.
5.  Do not use secondary sources for reference citations; the only exception is when the original source is inaccessible (i.e., written in a language in which you are not fluent, classic books that are no longer available or readily located, etc.).
6.  Do use *Turn It In* to check for **unintentional** plagiarism (I am confident that no one would intentionally plagiarize!).
7.  Do make certain that the ideas you are conveying are fully and clearly developed as well as organized in a logical manner so there is a well integrated flow of thoughts.
8.  Do carefully review your work for grammar, spelling, and typographical errors; do not blindly accept all changes the grammar and spell check function identifies.
9.  Do use the Writing Support Center if writing is a challenge for you or if a faculty member recommends that you avail yourself of the Center services.

And most important,

10.  Do hold yourself to a high standard of academic excellence and be open to constructive criticism to ensure the excellence to which you aspire; this is not about getting an “A” in a course; it is a dispositional characteristic that makes for successful scholars.