

National Social Science Association Student Paper Expectations

Categories	Expectations for an A paper
(A) Does the abstract/intro summarize the article clearly and effectively? Are Keywords included?	It is as brief as possible yet maximally informative. The first sentence is especially revealing. The abstract is limited to 250 words. Important concepts, findings, or implications are included in the abstract. This is very close to the summary or conclusions. Three to five key terms are listed at the conclusion of the abstract.
(B) Are objectives clearly stated, and is the theme Consistent?	Each objective is carefully constructed to address each goal specifically and concretely. The theme is clear and consistent throughout the paper.
(C) Is there proven Research?	Research is up to date, and all sources are recent and credible. Up to date would be within the last five years for most topics.
(D) Clarity of Writing	The article is written with direct information and conveys meaning accurately and clearly.
(E) Are conclusions and generalizations based on the findings?	Straightforward reporting with clear interpretations and alternatives that are clearly stated and discussed. Ideas and findings are described.
(F) Contribution to the Literature of Social Science or Education	The article is relevant to social science education and provides new insights into the field.
(G) References are cited correctly	All references are correctly cited using the most current writing style guide.