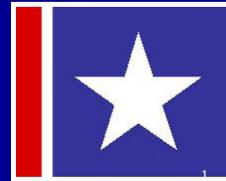


# Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas

Leadership Command College  
Writing Workshop  
Module I



1

## Goals for Today

- What is a Leadership White Paper (LWP)?
- What are the due dates?
- What are your responsibilities?
- What is a thesis?
- What resources are available?
- What are the Research Day expectations?

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# Expectations

## ■ To graduate, you will



- Write Leadership White Paper (M1)
- Present/Defend Leadership White Paper
  - (M1 & M3)
- Create/Display Leadership Portfolio
  - (M2 & M3)

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# Steps to Accomplish Expectations

## ■ Module I

1. Library Research Day
  - Work with Research Librarians
2. Complete Outline and Complete Draft
  - 10 pages minimum, 10 sources minimum
3. Oral presentation on topic (7 min), thesis statement, points, counterpoints, etc.



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# Steps to Accomplish Expectations

## ■ **Module II**

1. Complete polished draft if LWP not already submitted
2. Work on your Leadership Portfolio

## ■ **Module III**

1. Obtain “Final Approved” LWP prior to attending
2. Display completed Leadership Portfolio
3. Present Oral Defense of Leadership White Paper (15 min)

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# What is an LWP?

- **Presents a two-sided argument about an issue**
- Takes a stand on an issue and then defends that position
- **Does not persuade or compare/contrast – but states a position and provides support**
- Establishes possible counter arguments and provides research-based support
- **Investigates/researches a key issue, interest, or problem identified as an important issue in the field of law enforcement/criminal justice**

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## Why an LWP?

- Identifies a concern to address and explains its importance
- Organizes and outlines viewpoint on the issue
- Formally informs others of position
  - Foundation to build resolution to difficult problems
- Allows passion to be demonstrated by the depth/breadth of argument and the tone
- Creates consistency in maintaining position in negotiations

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## Why require an LWP within the LCC?

- Provides an edge in the law enforcement field
- Helps develop applied research skills
- Enhances written AND oral communication skills
- Provides a format to use in future presentations to command staff, city council, etc.
- Become a published author
- College credit
  - 12 Undergraduate hours
  - 6 Graduate hours

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# THESIS SENTENCE

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## Thesis Sentence

- Is a single sentence you could read to tell someone the claim of your paper
- The entire paper will offer a logical defense in support of your claim
  - The thesis tells them what your stance is
- A statement that clearly communicates your view on the subject
- Is a single sentence at the end of your introduction that presents your argument to the reader
  - Rest of paper gathers/organizes evidence that will inform reader of the logic of your interpretation

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# Developing a Good Thesis Sentence

- A good thesis sentence will ...
  - Be complete
    - The claim of your paper should be obvious within the statement. No mystery needed
  - Be concise
    - Use only as many words as it takes to communicate your paper's central point – Do not include position points
  - Be clear
    - Use grammatical correctness and precision so the statement is clearly understood and articulated
- Include the word "should"
- It is in statement format - not a question
- It is the foundation of your entire paper

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# Thesis Sentence Examples

- Professional musicians that are not knowledgeable of the concepts of music theory will hinder the output of musical ensembles or bands.

Vs.

Professional musicians **should** be knowledgeable of the concepts of music theory.

- Body cameras **should** be worn by LEO's.
- LEAs **should** use social media.

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# Thesis Sentence

## What Not to Do

- Body cameras should be worn by officers in order to increase the transparency of the law enforcement profession, protect officers against false allegations, and to assist in cases.
- Do not include the “why” of the thesis inside the thesis statement.

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# BREAK



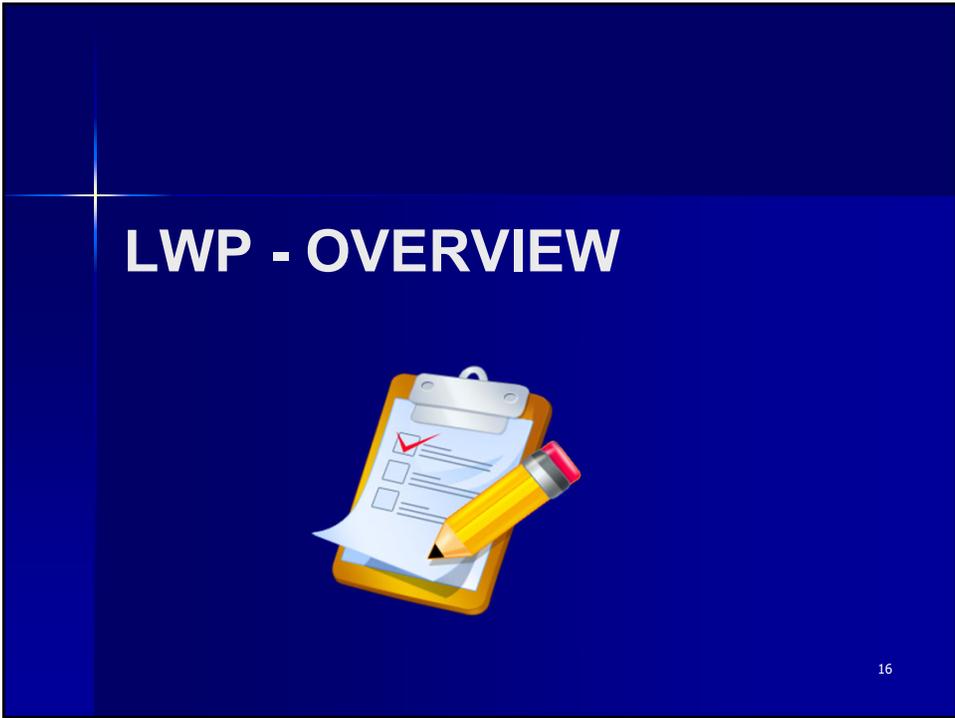
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## LWP BASICS

- Size 12 Arial font
- 10 pages (excluding TOC and References)
- LWP is **double** spaced and each paragraph is indented
- References are also **double** spaced
- **Must use the LWP Template in Blackboard or in the Survival Guide on the [LCC website](#)**
  - Tips & Tricks are also embedded in the template

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## LWP SECTIONS

**Abstract (written last, 1 pg. max, do not indent, do not include multiple paragraphs)**

- Purpose of the paper (describe the problem)
- High-level overview
- Establishes importance of topic
- States thesis



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# LWP SECTIONS

## Introduction

- Define, describe, or clarify the topic
- Establish the importance of the issue
  - so what?
- Historical or scholarly context
- Establish the main points
- Present your thesis

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## Introduction



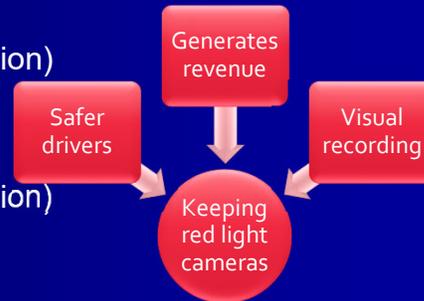
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# LWP SECTIONS

## Position (at least 2) – THE “WHY”

- Assert Point 1
  - Statement
  - Evidence (research/citation)
- Assert Point 2
  - Statement
  - Evidence (research/citation)
- Assert Point 3
  - Statement
  - Evidence (research/citation)



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# LWP SECTIONS

## Counter Arguments (at least 2) - “THE WHY NOT”

- Counter arguments are arguments against the THESIS, not the position points
- Research opposing viewpoints and provide evidence of counter arguments with citations
- **Refute** counter arguments with **rebuttals** (at least 2)
- Provide research that shows why the counter arguments are invalid and cite



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# LWP SECTIONS

## Counter Arguments

- **Assert Counter Argument 1**
  - Statement & Evidence against Thesis (research and citations)
- **Assert Rebuttal 1**
  - Statement & Evidence to refute Counter Argument 1 (research and citations)
- **Assert Counter Argument 2**
  - Statement & Evidence against Thesis (research and citations)
- **Assert Rebuttal 2**
  - Statement & Evidence to refute Counter Argument 2 (research and citations)

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### Counter Argument 1 - Creates more accidents

- Rebuttal - Rear end instead of T bone (citation)
- Rebuttal - Fewer injuries and deaths (citation)

### Counter Argument 2 - Issue of Privacy

- Rebuttal - Court says no (citation)

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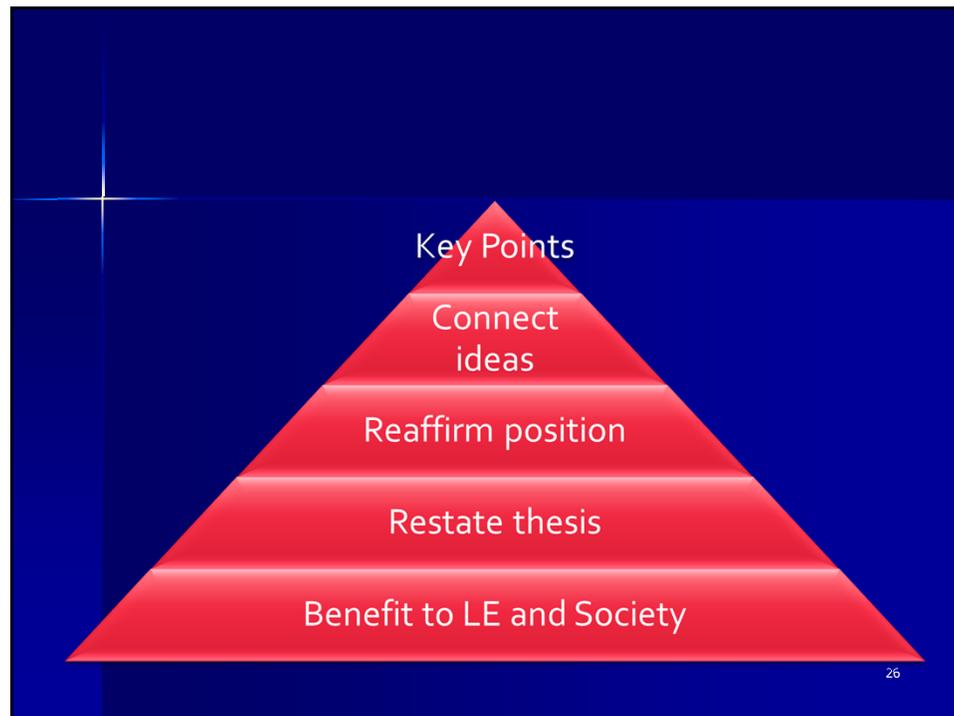
# LWP SECTIONS

## Recommendation – “THE HOW”

- Reiterates the thesis
- Summarize position points, counter arguments, and rebuttals
- Reiterates importance of the topic to LE and/or society and restates key evidence/research
- Provides a plan of action or policy implications
  - How to implement the thesis

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# LWP SECTIONS

## References (min of 10) in APA Format

- Use **DO's & DON'Ts** of Scholarly Writing Guide and the **PURDUE OWL 7<sup>th</sup> ed. APA Style Guide**
- Listed in alphabetical order with hanging indentations
- Every listing must be found in the body of the paper in the form of an in-text citation
- All information readers might need to further investigate or cross-reference the research
  - **Please ensure all URL links work before submitting LWP<sup>27</sup>**

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# LWP SECTIONS

## References (cont.)

- 1) Determine what kind of source
  - Journal Article / Magazine Article
  - Books, Dissertation, Thesis, Prior LCC White Papers
  - Electronic Source (Webpages, Online News)
  - Internal Agency Documents
- 2) Determine the author(s)
  - A person, group of people, or an organization
    - If no person is listed, the organization / group / website is likely the author
    - If no person or organization is available, use the title <sup>28</sup> (rare)

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# LWP SECTIONS

## In-Text Citations

IF YOU DIDN'T WRITE IT, CITE IT!

### APA Format

Purdue OWL 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Style Guide is the gold standard

### Narrative vs. Parenthetical Citations

- Smith and Jones (2020) argue that law enforcement is a noble profession.
- Law enforcement is a noble profession (Smith & Jones, 2020).

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# What is included in the LWP?

## ■ Appendix A, B, C (optional)

- Scenarios
  - Any detailed operational scenarios/plans
  - Examples of policy
  - Graphs, Figures, Tables

## ■ A descriptive caption must be added to all graphs, figures, images, etc.

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# Artificial Intelligence

- **Do not** use AI to write any portion of the paper for you or copy / paste AI responses
- **Do not** use AI to write your citations or references for you
- AI **can** be used for brainstorming ideas (position points / counter arguments / grammar)
- Use **The DO's & DON'Ts of Scholarly Writing** packet and **The PURDUE OWL 7<sup>th</sup> ed. APA Style Guide** for citations & references

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# Acknowledge AI Use

- **Acknowledgement of AI Use form on the last page of the LWP Template, after the Appendix**
- Check the box that best describes your use of AI
  - If AI was used:
    - Briefly describe which AI tool was used and for what purpose (brainstorming positions/counter arguments, editing grammar, etc.)

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## What is not included in LWP

- Rhetorical Questions
- Lists / Bulleted Points
- Charts
- Graphs
- 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> person (I, me, we, our, you, yours, etc....)



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**HOW DO I FIND TOPICS OF INTEREST?**

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# How do I get started?

## ■ Topic

- Law Enforcement
- Criminal Justice



## ■ Challenge

- Use this as a leadership opportunity to leave a legacy to future officers

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# Issue Criteria

## ■ Establish arguability of a topic

- Is it a real issue, with genuine controversy and uncertainty?
- Can you distinctly identify two positions?
- Are you personally interested in advocating one of these positions?
- Is the issue narrow enough to be manageable?
- Is there enough research/evidence to support your position?

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## Where do I find topics covered by former LEMIT students?

[www.lemitonline.org](http://www.lemitonline.org)

- Click on Resources
- Under Publications is a blue hyperlink to the Newton Gresham Library
- Once you've clicked through, enter in your search topic

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## LWP QUESTIONS??



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# BREAK



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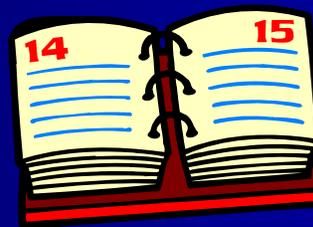
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# DUE DATES



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## Module I LWP Timeline and Due Dates

- **LWP Outline (Topic & Introduction Section Only) due to [lccresearch@shsu.edu](mailto:lccresearch@shsu.edu) by noon tomorrow**
  - Do not wait until Library Research Day to select your topic
  - This gives Susan time to assess your topic & help you locate resources
- **Complete Draft and Complete Outline due 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday by midnight**
  - 10 pages in length and includes 10 sources
  - Submit LWP Rough Draft & Outline in **Blackboard**
- **Power Point presentations (7 minutes) will be given on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

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## Module II

### LWP Timeline and Due Dates

- It is best practice to have the LWP submitted for Final Approval before attending Module II so that you can focus on the Leadership Portfolio
- If unable to submit prior to Mod II, the polished draft of LWP should be submitted to [lccresearch@shsu.edu](mailto:lccresearch@shsu.edu) by



3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Module II

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## Module III

### LWP Timeline and Due Dates

- Final Approved LWP is complete before confirmed attendance to Module III
- Draft Leadership Portfolio Due - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday
- Final Leadership Portfolio Due - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday
- Oral Defense
  - 15 minute presentation - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday
  - Panel of LCC faculty and LCC graduates

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# Exercise



- Break up into groups
- Use your LWP Outline to guide your group through the brainstorming exercise
  - Complete Thesis Statement (last of Intro section)
- Report back to the classroom in **45 minutes**
- Read Thesis Statement aloud to group

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**Leadership White Paper (LWP) – Outline**

Author: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Is a 2<sup>nd</sup> Review Needed  
 Yes  No

Content Editor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Introduction Section**

What is the concern your paper is addressing?	_____	Did you... <input type="checkbox"/> Explain topic
Why is the topic important to the field of law enforcement and criminal justice?	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Explain importance of topic
What is the thesis statement? (Should be a "should" statement)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> (Opt) Give background info
		<input type="checkbox"/> State thesis

**Position Section**

Position Point 1: (Required)

Citation (Required)

Position Point 2: (Required)

Citation (Required if Position Point 3 is provided)

Position Point 4: (Optional)

**Counter-Position Section**

Counter Argument 1: (Required)

Citation (Required)

Introduction Section  
Due Noon Tomorrow

lcresearch@shsu.edu

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**Leadership White Paper (LWP) – Outline**

**Author:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Topic:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is a 2<sup>nd</sup> Review Needed**  
 Yes  No

**Content Editor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Introduction Section**

What is the concern your paper is addressing?	_____	_____	_____
Why is the topic important to the field of law enforcement and criminal justice?	_____	_____	_____
What is the thesis statement? (Should be a "should" statement)	_____	_____	_____

**Did you...**

- Explain topic
- Explain importance of topic
- (Opt) Give background info
- State thesis

**Position Section**

**Position Point 1:** (Required)

**Citation:** (Required)

**Position Point 2:** (Required)

**Citation:** (Required if Position Point 3 is provided)

**Position Point 4:** (Optional)

**Citation:** (Required if Position Point 4 is provided)

**Counter-Position Section**

**Counter Argument 1:** (Required)

**Citation:** (Required)

**Counter Argument 2:** (Optional)

**Citation:** (Required)

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Introduction Section  
Due Noon Tomorrow

lcresearch@shsu.edu



## LWP RESEARCH WITH CJ RESOURCES (SHSU NEWTON GRESHAM LIBRARY DATABASE)

(THE START OF SEARCHING, READING, EVALUATING)

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## Library Day Details

- **Thursday, April 2nd (meet in LEMIT Lobby)**
- **9:00am – Noon (allow an hour for travel)**
  - LWP Research w/Criminal Justice resources
    - Susan Strickland
- **Noon**
  - Lunch provided
- **1:00 – 3:00pm**
  - LWP Research w/Criminal Justice resources
    - Susan Strickland

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## Library Day Details

- **Bring with you:**
  - Jump Drive (laptops not needed)
  - LWP outline (paper or e-copy)
  - SHSU Username & Password to login to computers (write it down)
- **10 cars max for parking**
  - carpool
  - reimbursement for personal vehicles only
  - give vehicle info to TAMU staff (plate, make, model & color)

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## Library Day Details

- **Must show Susan @ least 10 sources before leaving!**
- **Get with Ian for help with formatting your 10 references.**
- **Wear your name tag.**
- **If carrying, make sure your badge is visible.**

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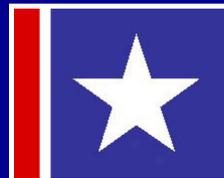
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# 1600 Bobby K Marks Drive, Huntsville, TX



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# Questions?



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