Question: What do I need to do in order to demonstrate competency in using American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines and in identifying the standard components of a journal article reporting the findings of a scientific experiment?

Answer: There are two separate items that must be submitted in order to accurately satisfy the requirement of showing technical and scientific writing competency.

**Item #1:** A photocopy of a paper you wrote for a class formatted or reformatted consistent with APA style guidelines. The paper submitted must include the following components:

1. Title Page
2. Abstract
3. Citations
4. Reference list

**Item #2:** A photocopy of a scientific research article from a scientific journal (e.g., Nursing Research, or New England Journal of Medicine). This must be an article that directly reports the authors’ original scientific research project conducted using human subjects. Highlight subheadings and make handwritten notes in the margins to demonstrate your recognition of the following components of a research article:

1. Abstract
2. Introduction
3. Research Question*
4. Either Hypothesis or Problem*
5. Method
6. Findings/Data
7. Discussion
8. Conclusion
9. Recommendations
10. References

*Author(s) may imply this component in one or more statements rather than stating the component explicitly.

Please make sure that each item submitted is clearly marked as writing competency requirement materials and that you include your name, the date, and the year that you plan to enter the junior year nursing courses. Please submit the materials listed above to the front desk in the School of Nursing. If you have any questions regarding this request please email nursing@northwestu.edu or call (425) 889-7822.