**The timeline of the academic research paper**

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| **Stage** | **Activity** |
| 1. Research Design and Planning
 | 1. Choose a topic
2. Narrow it down/select a particular angle/negotiate a title
3. Make sure it is researchable and challenging
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| 1. Literature Review
 | 1. Search/capture[[1]](#footnote-1) and synthesize relevant literature/ gather information/locate academic/scholarly sources/ collect data from primary or secondary sources (e.g. from scholar.google.com)
2. Research methodology plan: selection of the appropriate research techniques
3. Organize ideas
4. Create an outline & write a thesis statement
5. Narrow down sources & write notes
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| 1. Data Collection
 | 1. Develop data collection instrument
2. Carry out data collection
3. Write up data collection
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| 1. Data Analysis
 | 1. Analysis and interpretation of data
2. Findings/ Discussion/ Recommendations
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| 1. Writing up
 | 1. Draft the paper (1300-2400 words) /check in-text citations and the bibliography list (in APA format as required and agreed)
2. Revise & fill the gaps/ include abstract
3. Edit/ make final touches if necessary/ check for plagiarism!
4. Submit paper online (by 4th June 2021)
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1. You are advised to use a (free) web/desktop reference management application such as Mendeley or Endnote [↑](#footnote-ref-1)