

Statement of Purpose



Research plays an important role in our lives as students, consumers, citizens, and individuals with unique interests. Two of the most important skills learned at Dulaney High School are researching effectively and writing an organized, coherent research paper. Writing a research paper is an essential skill for not only high school students but also for students who pursue higher education.

Dulaney is committed to teaching the fundamentals of research, keeping in mind that technology is constantly changing and affecting the processes we employ. Efficient, focused research is a powerful tool in acquiring knowledge. The research process demands careful, systematic instruction and practice to insure that students graduate with the tools they need for success in higher education and/or the world of work. Since the technical aspects of writing a research paper are varied and change constantly, students should be prepared to interpret various procedures and adapt them in their writing.

This booklet is designed to help students and teachers by serving as an instructional guide for the processes of research and composing the research paper.

Academic Integrity in the Research Process

In accordance with its long tradition of success, Dulaney stresses academic integrity in the research process. Honest, thorough documentation of sources is integral to valid research. Teachers instruct the students on methods of citing sources and crediting authors with material that is not their own, giving lessons on paraphrasing, inclusion of direct quotes, internal citations, and proper Works Cited format.

Because Dulaney encourages respect for the personal, communal, and intellectual property of others, academic dishonesty or plagiarism is treated as a serious offense. We expect students to follow honest techniques of presenting other people's ideas and words. Just as the professional community treats plagiarism as a grievous offense, Dulaney treats academic dishonesty as a serious violation in the academic world. In a letter to students and parents, the principal emphasizes our policy of academic honesty and lists consequences for any breaches in the policy.