

How to color code your research log:

*This is a required part of your log submission to Crihfield.

Instructions: In your logs, find at least two total examples that demonstrate each colored phrase from the rubric and change the color accordingly. See below for examples. Look at paper 4 rubric for further descriptions of these requirements in research and reflection.

AO1 Research Rubric:

- Appropriate and challenging **research question developed thoughtfully** and independently by constructive dialogue, responding fully to feedback.
- Strong and consistent understanding of appropriate research methods. **Methodology is carefully and thoughtfully considered** and shows an innovative approach. The **work is independently managed** without over- reliance on teacher support.
- Highly effective and clear maintenance and use of a research log showing **full support of the research process**.

AO1 Examples from log:

- I decided that in my first topic question, I want to include the word “trafficking” when addressing the black market of organ harvesting because I feel that the definition of this word, as defined by the Cambridge English Dictionary as “the activity of buying and selling goods or people illegally”, thoroughly represents the process of organ harvesting on the black market. I believe the use of this term in my question will clarify the research topic and increase the accuracy of the question.
- This use of desk research best fits my area of discussion because there is a sufficient amount of data readily available on the topic of organ trade, so much that it is unnecessary for me to do primary research.
- I recognized that the lack of primary research is a limitation to my research report. Primary data, if collected and used in the right way, is more convincing than reproduced data. However, the nature of this topic lends itself to desk research because of the fact that it would be extremely difficult and not to mention dangerous for a student such as myself to collect data in least developed countries and hospitals. To compensate for this limitation, I feel my report utilizes the best sources and expertise in the field who did conduct their own research.
- I understood this task and that it would help me better my skills in assessing the validity of an author and their arguments. I went about preparing this independently by reviewing past paper 1 exams and making notes on important things to remember when deconstructing an argument as well as how to analyze and compare the quality of their arguments and expertise.
- As I continued research, I realized there was an alternative perspective to the counter-thesis that I had not thought of previously. I recognized that organ trading could actually reduce societal health care costs. Economists from the University of Chicago found that by comparing the costs of paying a living donor to trade their organs to the costs of remaining on dialysis (the alternative to receiving a transplant). Dialysis is typically covered by health care, and because dialysis is extremely expensive, replacing it with a system where a donor would be paid to donate would reduce societal health care costs.

AO2 Reflection Rubric:

- **Reflection on the scope, nature and limitations of the research** is clear and cogent. Reflection shows a thoughtful and mature approach to **how and why personal viewpoints may have altered during the research process**.

AO2 Examples from log:

- I recognized that the lack of primary research is a limitation to my research report. Primary data, if collected and used in the right way, is more convincing than reproduced data. However, the nature of this topic lends itself to desk research because of the fact that it would be extremely difficult and not to mention dangerous for a student such as myself to collect data in least developed countries and hospitals. To compensate for this limitation, I feel my report utilizes the best sources and expertise in the field who did conduct their own research.
- At the beginning of my research, I didn't have an established opinion on organ trading and whether it is ethical. I assumed there was no problem with such a system because I thought how could a system that brings organs to people who need them be unethical. After immense research and many months of continuously reading on the subject, I realized there are various reasons as to why this isn't ethical. The leading reason is that the system exploits the poor. Alternative reasons as to why organ trade isn't ethical include, the system goes against religious beliefs and it results in postoperative complications. Looking at this side of this issue made me sympathetic to those who the system exploits, but at the same time I still see a system the ultimately helps people. As my aspiring career is to help people through the practice of medicine, this was an issue that I went back and forth with in my mind. Is one life worth more than another? People in less developed countries are dying to give their organs to people in developed countries. Eventually, I came to the conclusion that unless there are some serious restrictions that eliminate all forms of exploitation in this system, it cannot be ethical.