

# The FIVE ELEMENTS of GOOD ACADEMIC WRITING

Across all courses at Paul Quinn College, students' writing is evaluated according to a rubric based on these five criteria. The consistent use of this rubric will help students to build basic writing skills across all genres of writing and all disciplines of study.

## 1 Format

Students must follow the professor's instructions for the header, font, margins, and spacing.

## 2 Information

Students' writing should reflect an understanding of relevant content and demonstrate strong critical thinking.

## 3 Organization

Students should create an outline or plan before they write and structure their writing in a meaningful way.

## 4 Research

Students should use only credible sources and cite them according to a style such as MLA or APA.

## 5 Grammar

Students should proofread their writing for grammar, spelling, and punctuation.