Critical Analysis of a Scholarly Publication

1. Select an experimental research/method publication from a Journal/Database within your discipline; the analysis should examine the strengths, weaknesses, and methods of the research. Furthermore, the analysis should discuss how well the author accomplished his/her goals.
2. Research the context of this publication. Some questions that might guide your research include, but are not limited to

* What is the purpose/goal?
* What is the problem or issue being solved?
* What data or evidence was used to find the results?
* What conclusions are being made and from what kind of data, and are these conclusions

valid?

* What is the solution, outcome, or resolution of the problem or issue?
* What are the short-term and long-term implications of the solution / consequences

of the outcome?

* What are the biases or assumptions behind the collection

of data, or framing of the problem?

* What are the basic concepts or terms being used? How do these definitions affect

the understanding of the problem?

* What point of view is being expressed? What could have limited the point of view?
* How could someone from a related, but different discipline improve the analysis?

1. Write an analysis that documents your findings. The analysis should be 6 to 8 pages and should use documentation style that is used in your major. The analysis will document the answers to the questions provided as well as other questions that the writer feels compelled to answer. The analysis CAN provide a summary, but the analysis should reach further…providing an informed critique of the material. Also, remember that the purpose is to evaluate: what did you find most significant within the research and what information did you find the most/least valid? Furthermore, what were the strengths and weaknesses of the methodology? For this paper, you will include the 6 to 8 page analysis, along with all drafts and peer review materials, copies of sources (or relevant portions of the sources) that you have cited in your paper.

Tentative Class Schedule:

Week One: Assignment will be explained and then discussed in class sessions

Week Two: Discussion of Drafting Practices and Drafting will be conducted

Week Three: Peer Review Workshops will be conducted

Week Four: Student Teacher Conferences will be conducted

Week Five: Final Draft Due