

Revision Process

What is revision?

To revise means to see your paper again. When revising, try to approach your paper with fresh eyes to honestly evaluate what is and is not working. Revising is different from editing. In academic terminology, a revision is a “higher order concern” while an edit is a “lower order concern.”

Here are questions to guide your revision process:

Flow

Is there a logical structure and progression to your paper? Are the ideas coherent and cohesive?

Transition

Does each sentence transition smoothly into the next sentence? Are your ideas connected?

Thesis

Does your thesis make a strong, refutable claim? Does the rest of your paper support your thesis?

Audience

Have you identified your audience? Is the tone appropriate for your audience?

Meets Criteria

Have you looked back at the prompt and guidelines provided by your course instructor? Does your paper meet all necessary criteria?

Evidence

Do you have strong evidence to support your thesis and topic sentences? Is evidence from a reliable source such as GALILEO or JSTOR?

Why should I revise?

No first draft is perfect. We revise to develop a stronger and more thorough argument, to clarify points, and to create a more coherent flow. Leo Tolstoy famously wrote the first draft of his acclaimed novel “Anna Karenina” with hardly any mention of one of the central characters. Imagine that 800-page revision!



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Schedule an appointment through the Unify portal

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