

ANTH 1000 Peer review sample letter

Author: Deborah Macintosh
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Dear Miley,

It was a pleasure to read your paper on anthropologists and the dangers they face. I haven't previously given much thought to the dangers faced by those who do fieldwork.

I'm not quite able to locate your thesis, but I noticed you discussed distrust of foreigners, inability to find people to interview, and dangers of ruling political/military forces. I think if you mention these in the beginning of your paper, it would help you make a defined thesis AND help direct the essay's flow.

I really liked the information you included about the anthropologist in Rwanda. It was fascinating to read about her plight. You don't have any citations or a works cited, so I can't find more information about her. The citations are not only required by the prof, but I PERSONALLY want to read more about her, so a work cited would give me some sources to go look at. I think you effectively convey how difficult it would be to work in her situation.

Do you have examples from countries other than Rwanda? All of your examples are interesting, but maybe if you added an example or two from another country it would support your claim that field work is dangerous...otherwise it seems like field work IN RWANDA is dangerous. Just a thought.

The image you have on the first page is really detailed, but I'm not sure it shows the dangerous places. I think it is showing language groups. Maybe you could find a chart or image that would work better for your argument. And don't forget to cite it. Also, my copy is black and white so I can't see the red circles you talk about.

I liked your conclusion. I think it did sum up your argument nicely. I also think it contains what should be your thesis statement. Maybe you can just use it as your thesis and come up with a different conclusion.

I think it would be neat if you came up with a catchy title for the paper...It would be an attention grabber!


Thanks again for the opportunity to read your paper, you'll need a bit of work for the final draft since your paper is a little under the page requirement. Hopefully my comments have helped you a little.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions,

Your BBFL,

Student X



 University of Connecticut

Avery Point Academic Center