

Writing Project 3: Researched Argument Essay

Deadlines: Due to Ivy Learn by 11:59 PM _____

Revision due to Ivy Learn by 11:59 PM _____

Format: MLA or APA style.

Length: Minimum 2000 words

Points Possible: 325 points (32.5% of final grade)

Purpose: In this course, we have been learning how to understand, summarize, analyze, and evaluate information and ideas, use the information we've encountered to develop our own thinking, and express our thoughts and ideas in various writing projects. For this assignment, you will be tying together all that you have learned thus far in the semester by writing a **researched argument essay** on an issue that relates to today's media and pop culture (this should be **the same issue you investigated for Writing Project 2**, the Annotated Bibliography).

Task: After thoroughly analyzing the sources you've collected on your chosen topic, you will come to your own understanding of the topic you've been investigating. Then, you will develop a **thesis-based** researched argument essay where you **support your position on this topic**.

To do this, complete the following steps:

1. Review the five (5), or more, sources from your Annotated Bibliography and any other credible resources you've used to help you develop a better understanding of your topic and answer your central **research question(s)**.

* Remember that you need to include at least five (5) sources from the library's databases, and at least one (1) of those sources should be from a peer-reviewed journal.
2. Write a thesis statement identifying your **arguable position** on the topic you've researched.
3. Construct an **outline** which includes a list of the **good reasons** you have to support your position on the topic and at least one perspective that is different from your own (this will make up a **counterargument**).
4. Within the outline, **list the full citations for sources** that support each of your good reasons with evidence, examples, explanations, testimony, cause/effect, etc.
5. Begin your draft. Write the body of the essay based on your outline, using your major supports as topic sentences. Make sure that you use transitions between and within paragraphs. Make sure that the counterargument is explained and refuted so that your reader knows you do not support the opposition's points.
6. Write your introduction. Introduce your topic and include some background information so you set the stage for your argument, and give your thesis.

* Some people choose to include a separate background paragraph. This is completely up to you.
7. Write your conclusion. Make sure you summarize and reflect on your main points, and provide a concluding statement that pushes your ideas forward.
8. Check your draft for the following:
 - Do you have an introduction that draws your reader into your argument?

- At the end of your introductory paragraph, do you have an arguable thesis statement that presents your position on your topic?
 - Do your body paragraphs present good reasons to support your thesis statement and adequate and convincing evidence from sources to support those reasons?
 - Do one or two of your paragraphs present a potential counterargument to your thesis statement?
 - Do you have at least one paragraph to refute this counterargument?
 - Do you have a conclusion which leaves the reader seeing the strength and logic of your position?
9. Using **MLA or APA format**, you will have to cite all of your sources using both **in-text/parenthetical citations** and a **References or Works Cited page**.
 10. Write, revise, and proofread a complete draft of the assignment and submit your rough draft to Ivy Learn on or before _____ at 11:59PM.
 11. Revise, revise, revise, and edit your draft based on the feedback you will receive in our one-on-one meeting which will be held in Ashley's office
_____.
 12. **Submit** a revised final version of WP3 to IvyLearn on or before _____ at 11:59PM.

Evaluation: Here are the seven things I will consider when evaluating this project:

1. **Thesis statement:** Does the essay contain a clear, specific, and arguable thesis that presents your position on the topic you've researched? **(30 points)**
2. **Introduction and Conclusion:** Does the essay's introduction attempt to hook the reader and set up the analysis? Does the conclusion reflect on the essay's main points and push your ideas forward? **(50 points)**
3. **Development and Cohesion:** Is your argument based on reliable sources? Have you cited at least one (1) article from a peer-reviewed journal and a total of five (5) credible sources from the library's databases? Does your evidence support your thesis? Are your ideas and the support from your sources fluidly integrated? Is your paper cohesive, well-written, and engaging? **(80 points)**
4. **Organization:** Is the essay clearly and logically organized? Does it include (1) An introduction with a clear thesis (2) body paragraphs that present main idea to support your thesis (3) at least one paragraph that offers a counterargument that opposes your position on the topic (4) at least one paragraph that refutes that counterargument, and (5) a conclusion? Does your essay transition seamlessly between main points and make logical connections between the various ideas presented in each source? **(80 points)**
5. **Format:** Is your essay properly formatted in either APA or MLA? Does it include properly formatted in-text citations? Does it include a complete and properly formatted References or Works Cited page? **(30 points)**
6. **Grammar and Mechanics:** Is your essay free of grammatical and mechanical errors? Does the essay show evidence of thorough proofreading and editing? **(30 points)**
7. **Timely Submission and Grading Conference:** For this assignment, you will be required to submit a completed draft of your essay by the due date and meet with me for a grading conference. **(25 points)**