

Assignment 4: Argumentative Paper

Full paper DUE: Thursday 06/30, in Turnitin.com, *before midnight*

SUBJECT

Utilize an Argumentative approach; discuss your findings concerning a controversial topic.

PRELIMINARY EXPECTATIONS

The final goal of this project is to produce an *Argumentative* research paper which demonstrates understanding of the following:

- how to analyze an audience and select an appropriate academic style
- how to prepare a research paper, utilizing a variety of sources
- how to synthesize information from a variety of sources into a document

OBJECTIVES

1. Following the various stages of argument, present research, utilizing MLA guidelines.
2. Use two sources of secondary evidence from database essays to show secondary opinions.
Visit **WCJC.edu**: select “**Library**” link > **Databases-Library Proxy Server** >
Enter appropriate fields to access school databases >
Newspaper & Current Topics> CQ Researcher
General Information > Academic Search Complete
General Information > SIRS Researcher
3. Follow standard MLA guidelines:
 - correct heading/header
 - Format ¶/s/indent
 - Times New Roman, 12 point
 - correct margins
 - double space
4. Create an interesting, intricate, descriptive introduction which clearly shows the focus of your essay and leads the reader into subsequent paragraphs.
5. Be sure each new paragraph includes a strong transitional phrase.
Paragraphs are fully developed with clear purpose. All body paragraphs must have:
 - strong topic sentences
 - at least one quote or paraphrase from secondary evidence
 - use signal phrases *before* you quote; provide in-text notations *after* you quote
 - colloquial language is *not* permitted; avoid contractions
 - avoid use of first person, singular
 - use five or more sentences
6. Punctuation and spelling are used correctly.
7. Utilize correct grammar and sentence structures.
8. Works Cited page is provided and set-up correctly.
9. **Essay Length: 900 words.** *Keep in mind this essay is very formal.*

STAGES	Deadline Date	Points
1. Find two-three database articles on topic . (Provide cover pages to instructor).	06.27	10
2. Gather preliminary research; begin constructing paper. Finalize outline.	06.27	10
3. Preliminary intro paragraph, division of proofs, and thesis statement (full intro is 150-200 words). PRINT VERSION ONLY Follow standard MLA guidelines when turning in document.	06.28	10
4. Generate more in-depth research. Conclusion must supply a brief summary, a peroration, and a resolution.		
5. Post 900 word document in <i>Turnitin.com</i> .	06.30	100

NOTE: For items 1-5:

- Material turned in after deadline dates will lose ten points per day; if you are absent make sure someone turns in your paperwork. Material dropped off and placed in my mailbox will *not* be accepted.
- Material cannot be e-mailed to the instructor.
- Any form of plagiarism, for *any* stage of the project, will result in zero points for the *full assignment*. Remember, when paraphrasing to utilize signal phrases and in-text notations.

ITEMS TO KEEP IN MIND

- *The paper itself will not be a personal persuasion piece (pathos) but focus primarily on information (logos/ethos).* In other words, despite the fact these issues are controversial and despite the fact you will have opinions on the topics, you are gathering information to show the development of the issue; you are not generating a personal editorial.
- Your sources of information must be non-biased and objective. However, due to the nature of the issues, your sources may show a preference for one side of the debate.
- The end result of the paper may propose an opinion or a resolution on the topic, however, the main goal is not to express your personal feelings or memories, but rather to show you can gather and present research material.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Children ten years or younger are too young for a smartphone.
- An overwhelming majority of Americans are rapidly becoming over obese.
- Professional athletes convicted of performance-enhancing drugs should not be considered eligible for any advancement or recognition for their accomplishments.
- Over the decades, video games have become increasingly more violent causing more aggressive teens.
- *No other topics are possible.*
- *Note: Keywords are underlined to aid searches.*