**English 1100: Freshman Composition**Paper #3

**Research Critical Analysis Paper: Arguing a Position**

People agree and disagree on many issues. Writing that takes a position on an issue is arguable. Arguing a position is essential in academic writing. Arguing a position requires evidence to strengthen and prove one’s claims. Research provides the evidence to prove a position and claim. It requires finding, analyzing and comparing sources supporting both sides of the argument. The evidence supports a clear and direct thesis statement.

**Essay (20%**) *5-7 pgs, MLA style, Times New Roman,12 pt and double- spaced.*

For this paper you’re expanding your exploratory/reporting essay by arguing a position. Your opinion matters for this essay and your readers want to hear what you have to say. Using evidence presented in your reporting essay, take a position, explain why this position is important to you, argue how this position overshadows the opposing argument, and present additional evidence supporting your claims. In addition to the sources presented in paper 2, you’ll need three additional sources backing up your position. Annotated Bibliography is required for this paper.

**Annotated Bibliography (3%)**

The annotated bibliography is a collection of all of the secondary sources that you cited. It includes citations of peer-reviews, visual texts, magazine, newspapers and websites. In this assignment, you’ll list these citations in MLA format followed by a paragraph of summary.

**Presentation (1%)**

Be prepared to give a brief 2-3 minute presentation on highlights from your essay.

**Guide for writing your Research Paper:**

* Take a clear and arguable position.
* Provide context for your argument using background information.
* Explain why you support your argument.
* Provide evidence to support your argument.
* State the values of the readership you are appealing to.
* Use visual images to help convey your ideas.
* Make your tone and facts demonstrate your reliability.
* Consider other positions, showing both sides of the argument.
* Edit your essay, eliminate typos, and remove grammatical errors.
* Your essay should be 5-6 pages, double-spaced, and in MLA format. Refer to the OWL website for MLA format. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/>

**Due Dates:**

* **March 28** – (1) Opening page introducing background topic/issue leading into a thesis statement. (2) Annotative Bibliography Page.
* **April 4** – Peer Review Essay Draft
* **April 11** - Post Final Essay Draft on blackboard before 9:30AM

**Writing Resources:**

*CCNY Writing Center:* schedule one-on-one appointment with a writing consultant.

*Harvard College Writing Center:* get quick online support.

**Self- and Peer-Assessment**

Use the following criteria for assessing your and your classmates’ essays. I will be using the same assessment when I grade the essays.

* Do you have a **clear and arguable position**?
* Have you **included background information** to provide a context for your argument?
* Have you provided **good reasons** in support your argument?
* Have you provided **evidence** in support of your reasons?
* To which of your **readers’ values** have you appealed?
* Have you **demonstrated**, through your inclusion of facts and your tone, that you are a **reliable source**?
* Have you **considered others’ positions**, and responded to them reasonably?
* Did you **design** your essay appropriately? Are there adequate visual elements? Have you considered the appropriateness of a Web text (for an essay that includes videos, for example)?
* Did you **edit** your essay, eliminate typos, and remove grammatical errors?
* Did you check your citations (both in-text citations and the works cited page) against the Purdue OWL? OWL website for MLA format: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/>