

ENG 1113: Unit 4 Argument

Free Topic Choice



DUE

- TBA, at beginning of class



READINGS

- Unit 4 Handout
- Troyka & Hesse, *QA Compact*
- How to Research handout
- Paper Proposal (due end of class, TBA)
- Previous handouts concerning essay writing given this semester

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Your essay should:

- Be at least 3 pages, @ 1000 words, (minimum), double spaced with 1" margins in 12 point, black print using Times New Roman font.
- Contain a clear and arguable claim supported with convincing evidence
- Incorporate the required research elements
- Be written with a clear plan related to your thesis showing logical order and persuasion
- Clearly show use of the basic elements of classical argument: claim, refutation, logic (no fallacies)
- Be addressed to a clearly identifiable target audience as evidenced in the tone, diction and selection of support material from texts and/or personal experience
- Follow standard academic English
- Demonstrate correct in-text and bibliographical MLA citation
- Show evidence of revision and editing

ADDITIONAL

You may make an appointment with me (or email me) at any phase of your assignment to discuss any ideas or problems you may be having. I am more than willing to look at drafts at any stage of development. Please consult the information in your syllabus about scheduling appointments in order to do so. You may also schedule an appointment in SSC's Student Success Center (Boren Library) or Student Support Services with a writing tutor to gain valuable feedback on your draft.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

In this unit, you will choose your own specific argument within one of the general topics selected by your class. This three page (minimum) argument presents clear reasons to support your argument that you in turn back by credible evidence from academic sources. All outside research must come from you. The paper must have a minimum of three **academic** sources with the following limitations:

1. No encyclopedias (including online versions such as Wikipedia) may count as a source. You may use an encyclopedia, but it is in addition to the five required sources.
2. You must use one print source from our library (including information obtained through Ebscohost), or another college's library, in your essay.

Suggested Outline:

- **Introduction:** Establishes the problem or issue and provides necessary background information about it that reader needs to know. This could mean presenting criteria in order to show how something is failing to meet a certain mark, or to argue that standards need changing, etc. Ends with a clear thesis that states your position.
- **Body Paragraphs 1-3:** Present your topic sentences that give specific reasons to justify your position. Paragraph should support these topic sentences with explanation, examples, and analysis.
- **Body Paragraph 4 or 5:** Refutation that explains at least one major opposing position to yours and shows how your position is still more reasonable. You may need to address more than one opposing argument. Provide clear logic that refutes these positions.
- **Conclusion:** Restates your position and wraps up the argument with a final appeal to show why the audience should care about this issue.