Research Syllabus

(This essay is worth 200 points. Late Papers will not be accepted)

The research paper must be a minimum of 1,000 words plus a completed Works Cited page. Anything less than 1,000 words will not be accepted. The research paper must follow the updated MLA format. See my blog and all other handouts that were given in class. I will not accept any paper written in any other format.

Argumentative Research Paper:

- Current Controversial Issue whereby pro and con sides can be researched.

Research Topic Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immigration Reform</th>
<th>Immunization</th>
<th>War</th>
<th>Wifi</th>
<th>Body Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Wage</td>
<td>Lowering the drinking age</td>
<td>Trump Administration</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marijuana Laws</td>
<td>Gay Equality</td>
<td>Censorship</td>
<td>Vaping</td>
<td>Video Games</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profiling</td>
<td>Prescription Medication</td>
<td>Physician Assisted Suicide</td>
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<td>Lap Band</td>
<td>Fast Food</td>
<td>GMOs</td>
<td>Child Discipline</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affordable Health Care</td>
<td>Self-driving Cars</td>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>Milk</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

(All topics must be approved by the instructor. You may not write about: pornography, or abortion.)

Sources:

In a standard research paper there is generally one source per page. In this case, your research paper must have a minimum of 10 sources, three of which must be print sources.

- One books
- One periodical (newspaper, journal or magazine)
- One from a reliable internet website
- Two of your choosing

Note: Wikipedia cannot be used as a source.
Research Paper Must Haves:

- Thesis statement—answers the question. It includes three elements to be discussed/proven in the body of the essay.
- Topic sentences
- Transitional words
- Proper Citation
- Hard Facts/Evidence
- Opposing View

Guidelines:

DO NOT SUMMARIZE OR PARAPHRASE quote directly from the source.

Quotations—copy an author’s remarks exactly as they appear in a source, word for word and punctuation mark for punctuation mark, enclosing the borrowed words in quotation marks.

When to quote:

- Quote when a source’s wording or phrasing is so distinctive that a summary or paraphrase would diminish its impact.
- Quote when a source’s words—particularly those of a recognized expert on your subject—will lend authority to your presentation.
- Quote when an author’s words are so concise that paraphrasing would create a long, clumsy, or incoherent phrase or would change the meaning of the original.
- Quote when you expect to disagree with a source. Using a source’s exact words assures readers you are being fair.


AVOID THE DROP QUOTE SCENARIO. BE SURE TO BLEND THE QUOTE INTO THE REST OF THE PARAGRAPH.

What Is Plagiarism?
There are three types of plagiarism:

1. To buy and/or copy someone else’s paper and pass it off as your own;
2. To paraphrase and/or summarize in your own words someone else’s ideas and thoughts without giving the original author credit, and
3. To use a word of the original author’s in a summary or paraphrase without putting that word(s) in quotation marks and giving the original author credit.

Do not plagiarize or you will receive a **ZERO** for the assignment.

**Possible Points:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Due Dates:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Draft</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Works Cited Page</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough Draft</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis Statement</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Turn In**

- Your final draft (including your Works Cited page)

**Please do not put your papers in an envelope or a report folder.**

All papers must be uploaded to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com).

Use Turnitin to help monitor all final deadlines.
I. CONTENTS/DEVELOPMENT
   1. Directly responds to the topic assigned/chosen: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   2. Thesis stated clearly: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
      Contains three elements: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   3. Providing evidence to support thesis: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
      The evidence is: EXCELLENT  GOOD  FAIR  POOR
      77077NONE
      Ideas are: RELEVANT  ACCURATE  ADEQUATE
   4. There is a clear introduction: YES  NO
   5. The introduction creates interest for reader: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   6. Is your conclusion clear? YES  SOMEWHAT  NO

II. ORGANIZATION/STRUCTURE
   1. Is the narrative developed to show a recall: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
      Does the narrative support thesis: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
      Is turning point clearly stated: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
      Is the analysis developed to prove thesis: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   2. Use of transitions: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   3. Clear topic sentences: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   4. Each element is developed in the body paragraphs: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   5. Sources are effectively integrated: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO

III. EXPRESSION
   1. Your writing style is: EXCELLENT  GREAT  GOOD  FAIR  POOR
   2. Grammar problems include: Verb Tense (VT) Subject Verb Agreement (AGR) Subject Pronoun
      Agreement (SPAGR) Fragment (FRAG) Run On (RO) Comma Splice (CS) Abbreviation
      (ABBREV) Capitalization (CAP) Punctuation (P) Awkward Phrasing (AWK) Spelling (SP) Wrong
      Word (WW) Other:

IV. FORMAT
   1. Third person point of view: YES  NO
   2. Typing/Font 12 with pagination in header: YES  NO
   3. Doubled Spaced: YES  NO
   4. Margins Correct: YES  NO
   5. MLA format: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO
   6. Minimum Word Count: YES  NO
   7. In-text citations are no more than 30% of total word count: YES  NO
   8. In-text citations correspond to the source information on the Works Cited page: YES  NO
   9. Works Cited page written correctly: YES  SOMEWHAT  NO

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE:

1. Make sure you respond directly to assigned topic.
2. Make explicit connection between events and consequences to show analysis.
3. Provide more specific relevant and accurate information to support thesis.
4. Proofread and correct paper before submission.
5. Other