

# Research Paper Final Draft

**Due Date: Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Length: 7-8 pages (not including Works Cited/ References)**

The final draft of the research paper is the culmination of ENC 1102: Introduction to Argument and Persuasion. As the culmination of the course, you will incorporate your skills of argumentation, summary, analysis, and synthesis that you have refined all semester. In your research paper, you will make a **clear, specific, narrow argument about an arguable topic**. The argument must be logos-based and supported with evidence in the form of facts, statistics, and/or quotations from experts in the field. Every claim must be supported with evidence. Remember that you are writing to persuade a skeptical audience (that is, your audience won't take claims on faith), so you must **prove your argument** is valid with support from recent, credible, relevant sources. Assume that your audience is well-educated but unfamiliar with your particular field.

**Your research paper must include your own analysis/opinion of the argument and evidence for that argument.** Do not assume that the argument or evidence is self-evident—you must interpret the support you provide for your claim. What does it mean? What is its significance? Why does it matter? In particular, watch out for overly long quotations. Just like rhetorical questions, quotations are not a substitute for making an argument. Paraphrase when you can, and quote when you must (though you still need to cite sources parenthetically when you paraphrase them). Quotations do not speak for themselves! Introduce who is speaking, paraphrase the idea expressed in the quotation (particularly if it's long), use the quotation, and then follow it up with an analysis telling the reader what it means.

As part of the paper, you must

- Acknowledge opposing points of view, either in an entire paragraph or idea by idea throughout; this establishes your ethos and shows that you are reasonable
- Cite parenthetical sources correctly (**showing that you know how and when to cite sources is a minimum criteria to pass the paper**)
- Include an outline to help structure and organize your ideas effectively
- Include a “Works Cited” or “References Cited” page plus a “Works Consulted” or “References Consulted” page to show your complete bibliography
- Have 12 recent, credible sources total, the majority of which should be scholarly

An appropriate conclusion should go beyond just summarizing the thesis (though you need to do that too—you need to remind the reader of your overall point). You should also grapple with the larger significance of your topic. What are the implications of what you've just discussed for 8 pages? What questions still need to be asked? What research hasn't been done yet on the topic? Think of the conclusion as a bridge that takes the reader out from the narrow focus of your paper back to the larger world.

## Grading Criteria for Final Draft

1. An “A” paper makes a clear, focused argument and supports that argument throughout the paper with a range of recent, credible sources. **The topic must be an arguable one.** The introduction has a clearly identifiable thesis statement that is narrow and specific, and the paper then follows through to prove that thesis. The writer establishes ethos and logos with a thorough familiarity with the topic and thoughtfully engages in a substantive analysis of the claims presented. The writer uses a range of relevant, credible, and recent sources to support his/her point and analyzes the significance of the evidence provided. An “A” paper contains no logical fallacies. An “A” paper acknowledges opposing points of view. The paper is well organized and each paragraph has a clear topic sentence. The sentence structure is direct, active, and concise, with appropriate word choice. The tone and diction are formal. The review will use transitions effectively and few, if any, grammar or punctuation errors. The writer will use the appropriate bibliography and the correct format.
2. A “D” paper does not have an arguable topic and/or makes an overly broad claim that can’t be supported in 7-8 pages. The writer does not use significant or scholarly sources and fails to prove the argument with evidence. A “D” paper is not based in logos and ethos but is pathos-based. It may be poorly organized and contain many distracting grammar and punctuation errors. A “D” paper has style problems: repetitive, passive, and choppy sentence structure and use of expletives. It will give the impression of having been written quickly with little revision or proofreading. **A “D” paper fails to cite sources or fails to cite them correctly.**

I will automatically deduct 30 points from the total for each of the following:

- Using incorrect method of citation (e.g. MLA instead of APA)
- Formatting bibliography incorrectly (e.g. margins or spacing)
- Lacking an outline

## Folder Contents Must Include

- Complete final draft (paper and bibliography)
- Outline final draft
- Graded annotated bibliography
- All peer-reviewed drafts (both from me and your classmates) of outline and introduction, thesis, annotated bibliography, and research paper

If you do not submit all of your rough drafts (both peer-reviewed and my copy) in a two pocket folder with your final draft, then I will drop your grade one whole letter grade. If you submit your drafts with out a folder, I will drop your grade one third of a letter grade.

## Extra Support

- Reading and Writing Center at SW Broward Hall. Go with specific questions and the assignment sheet.
- UF OWL (online writing lab). The response time is 24 hours, so the earlier you post, the sooner you will get a response. Please make sure that your question is specific (no proofreading requests) and that your submission is under 500 words. The password is ufowl.