

Writing Assignment 5

In this fifth and final writing assignment (worth 20 percent of your final grade), you will write an argumentative essay, using two reputable sources to back up your claim.

You will answer the following **inquiry question**: What do I believe is true and why?

Write an essay in which you make a factual claim about an issue or controversy that interests you. Make sure your essay includes the following:

- Claims that are supported by clear reasons.
- Relevant evidence from your research, observations, and/or personal experience to support your claims and reasons.
- A strong sense of what is at stake for your readers. Why should they care as much as you do about the issue?
- At least some attention to counterarguments. What are other ways of looking at the issue, and why do you reject them?

(1) Be sure to pick a topic that you have not addressed yet this term. Ideally, try to find something relevant enough to your current life that you might consider sending your finished product off to the audience you have chosen.

(2) Gather at least two reputable written and/or electronic sources. You must include these sources as evidence in your essay, by both using proper APA in-text citations and including them on your References page. See chapters 4 and 5 of Guptill for more information

(3) Write a **three- to five-page paper** in which you clearly and convincingly argue your claim, adhering to the [elements of an effective essay](#) that we have discussed this term.

(4) Remember to include the following elements after your essay:

- References Page (cite sources in APA format)
- Appendix A: Audience Description

Purpose: To persuade your audience to think differently about a topic of your choosing.

Audience: Your choice, although must be more than one person and appropriate to your purpose. Be sure to attach a brief audience description to your draft, using proper APA format for an Appendix.