Rht 101

Paper 4: Argumentative Research Paper

**Goals:**

* The goal of this paper is to useresearch to answer a research question.

**Topic**

* Students will write on a topic of their choice and will craft their own research question and thesis statement.

**Sources**

* Students must utilize at least three sources and prove that the sources are credible
* Sources can come from the Library’s databases or the Internet. They do not have to be peer-reviewed but they do have to be credible.

**Specifications**

* Minimum of 1250 words.
* Minimum of 3 sources. (more is okay)
* The introduction should set up and state your research question.
* The thesis statement must articulate your answer to the research question and provide a short list of your key points (mapping statement).
* Each body paragraph should introduce a source, prove that it is a credible source, and explain how that source supports your thesis statement.
* The paper must have at least five paragraphs with an introduction and conclusion.
* The paper must be free or nearly free of grammatical errors and awkward sentences.
* Photos and graphics are allowed but do not count toward the word count.
* Formatting, citations, and work cited page **must conform to MLA standards**
* **Due: 8 May**

**Research question**

* Your research question should be a focused question that can be answered using research.

**Thesis Statement**

* Your thesis statement should provide a general answer to the research question and also set up the organization of your paper by indicating the main points of your argument.

**Some possible research questions**

* What, if anything, should we do about climate change?
* Is there a correlation between screen time and depression in teenagers?
* Do online courses result in better retention of material than traditional courses?
* Which lifestyle factors have the greatest effect on the risk of heart disease?
* Does the USA or Canada have a better healthcare system?
* Who is the greatest quarterback of all time and why?
* What effect has social media had on our society?
* Is it better to attend a university for 4 years or go to community college for the first two years?
* What age is best for introducing children to computers?

**Social Sciences:**

* **Psychology:** How does social media usage influence the development of self-esteem in teenagers?
* **Sociology:** To what extent do economic factors contribute to racial disparities in the criminal justice system?
* **Political Science:** Does the rise of populism threaten democratic institutions?
* **Education:** How effective are alternative education programs in reducing high school dropout rates?

**Science & Technology:**

* **Environmental Science:** What are the potential environmental consequences of increased reliance on renewable energy sources?
* **Biology:** Can personalized medicine based on genetic analysis become a standard healthcare practice?
* **Computer Science:** How can artificial intelligence be ethically applied to automate decision-making processes?
* **Engineering:** Can advancements in battery technology pave the way for widespread adoption of electric vehicles?

**Humanities:**

* **History:** How did the Black Death influence social and political structures in medieval Europe?
* **Literature:** In what ways does Shakespeare's portrayal of female characters reflect the societal values of his time?
* **Philosophy:** Does the existence of free will contradict the concept of determinism?
* **Art History:** How did the Renaissance movement challenge the dominant artistic styles of the Middle Ages?