

Research paper **in parts** to complete one full paper:

1. **Topic: woman in ministry**

This assignment expands on the discussion forum for this week. For each problem, write two questions that might be a good research question. These should not be Yes/No questions, but should have multiple possible answers. Often good questions begin with “how,” “what,” or “why.” *Example:*

1) *Standardized testing*

- *How does “teaching to the test” prepare writing students for college?*
- *What, if any, are the good reasons to continue to use standardized testing in public education?*

2. **Investigate an article in a discipline-specific database and write about it in the Discussion Forum**

In the [Library Databases LibGuide](#), click on the tab that represents your major. Choose a database from the top list and do a search on your topic. Choose a result from the first page that looks like it would be helpful in your research. Answer the following and post to the Discussion Forum:

- What database did this come from?
- Who is the author?
- What can you find out about the author’s qualifications?
- When was this written?
- Is this item peer reviewed?
- What is the original source of the item (e.g., journal, book)?
- What is the author’s purpose in writing this item?
- Is there an abstract?
- What is the main idea of the article? Does it involve research the author(s) did?

After answering each of these questions, write a short paragraph (200 words) comparing this article to the encyclopedia articles. Which might be more helpful for your paper? What are the similarities? Differences?

3. **Get an overview of your topic**

Search your topic in Wikipedia and [Oxford Research Encyclopedias](#). Read and summarize one article from each. Notice any resources in bibliographical references that may be helpful for your paper. After the two summaries, include citations for the articles (you can use Zotero for this if you’re using it for extra credit). Then write one paragraph comparing the two encyclopedias. Which was more helpful? Why do you think that professors generally do not want you to use encyclopedias as sources?

4. Gathering sources:

Find four sources that are authoritative and provide support for at least one of the points on your outline. Use the library information to determine what is an authoritative source. You will do this assignment twice (this week and next week), but remember that you need sources on all sides of the issue.

Annotated bibliography: For each source, you need a citation in the correct format for your major and a paragraph summarizing and evaluating the source. Sources should be in alphabetical order in this section. (Minimum 150 words per annotation).

Then you will write a longer paragraph at the end that compares and contrasts all four of the sources and their information about your topic. In that long paragraph, you will need to cite each of the sources correctly and use direct quotes from at least two of them. (400 words). This long paragraph can be used as part of the background section of your research paper.

You may use other sources in your paper.

These sources must be either books (or parts of books), .edu or .gov websites, or journal articles unless you believe that you cannot write the paper without the source. You will need to convince your instructor that an authoritative form of the source does not exist.

5. Argument Outline:

Create an outline that structures your argument ([Rogerian Argument outline Comp. II](#)). Possible answers to the research question are main headings (minimum of two; maximum of five). Each subheading should have two to five pieces of evidence that support that answer. Plug in the sources you have already found to remind yourself where you will get the evidence. If you have a low number of main headings, you should have a higher number of subheadings so that your paper will have at least ten pieces of evidence. Avoid logical fallacies. If you don't yet know the evidence, ask yourself a question to remind yourself to find the answer. This will be graded on the completeness and logic of your argument, not on outline format.

6. Prep for rhetorical analysis

Consider the following paragraph ([see example](#)) which has multiple logical fallacies. Choose two fallacies in the paragraph and describe a) what type of fallacy each one is; b) what is fallacious in the logic; c) how the text might be rewritten to avoid the fallacy. Note: You will be writing about the quality of an argument, including fallacies, in your Rhetorical analysis.

Response: Choose the posts of two classmates who identify different fallacies than you do. Do you agree with their identification? Why or why not? (Response posts 100 words minimum).

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8. Rogerian Argument Section

You'll be writing the argument section of your researched argument paper. It is the "meat" of the paper, so it will be the longest part (minimum of 1,800 words). It will immediately follow your background section, which you wrote last week, so begin with a transition. This week's writing will include the following sections:

- Laying out positions: You will have at least two positions that you explain. Some questions may have more than two possible answers. Some will have a large number of possible answers. Here you want to limit to no more than four positions; any more would be confusing for the reader. Your reader should not be able to discern which position you agree with at this point. Make every attempt to lay the positions out in a fair and balanced way. Include information about the context and assumptions of those who hold each position.
- Common ground: Here you will refer to what's at stake (from the background section) and what is valued in common by the stakeholders. For example, if I'm writing about the best way to prepare lower-performing students for college, I will have just outlined several options, and for common ground, I'll say that everyone wants students to be

prepared, wants students to have self-agency, and so on. The more values you can find that everyone agrees on, the better.

- Solutions that can provide what people see as important (the common ground). Here you list several possible solutions and describe why they can be a win/win for all stakeholders and how they could be implemented.
 - Include a Bibliography or References page that just incorporates the sources you use in this section (Zotero can do this for you).
- The total number of words in these three sections will be at least 1,800

9. Introduction and conclusion parts

This week you will write the introduction and conclusion to your researched argument paper. This will add 700 words total to your paper (350 or so for intro and 350 or so for conclusion).

In your conclusion, you should lay out your best solution. It should be imaginative and take the complexity of the situation into account. Acknowledge any limits of your solution, and point out how it accommodates those with other viewpoints.

Your conclusions should be logical and include possible consequences of adopting your solution. You may list and prioritize several solutions if you wish.

Include a Bibliography or References page that just incorporates the sources you use in this section (Zotero can do this for you).