

Mod 4 discussion 1

1. For your **Module 4 Assignment: Common Ground Synthesis Essay**, you will choose one of the following identity-related topics for your research. You will begin to brainstorm for that essay in this discussion. Carefully read one of the following topic guides found at the CCCOnline Library as the basis for your research. Be sure to also open and read the resources in the "Related Items" box on the right side of the Overview page to see the various positions on the topic:
 - **Feminism**
 - **Racial Profiling**
 - **Rights of Convicted Felons**
 - **Separation of Church and State**
 - **Immigration Restrictions**
 - **Online Degree Programs**
2. **Think:** There are clear positions debated on each of these topics. Compare and contrast the two sides of the issue. Think about what they say that is different, and also what they have in common.
3. **Write: Write a short paragraph contrasting the two sides of the issue. Which arguments/positions are different? Then, write a paragraph where you carefully consider the ideas, values, and goals the two sides have in common. Explain where these two sides are similar.**
4. Post one original post, and reply to at least two of your classmates. In your replies to peers, try to further the discussion by asking thoughtful questions, adding interesting information, or connecting your reply to the material we are discussing. Help your peers find similarities between the sides of their issues. Help one another find the common ground. Then, consider what types of rhetorical choices and appeals you will need to make in your own writing to maintain neutrality and respectfully engage readers of both perspectives.
5. Don't forget that your initial posting is due by the date listed in the Course Schedule. Please post over several days. Points will be lost if you post on only one day of the module.

See the Course Schedule and Course Rubrics sections in the Syllabus module for due dates and grading information. See the Grading and Evaluation section in the Syllabus module for general discussion expectations.