

**Argument and Research****Essay #3: Argument Research Paper****Overview of the Assignment:**

This assignment requires students to write a 5 (full) to 6 pg. formal APA documented research paper. The paper should apply the Classical organization pattern. The paper may include research that was gathered for the previous informative research paper, and may include other and/or additional research.

**Course Objectives Addressed:**

- Locate source material using on-line and data base search logic
- Identify, distinguish and practice writing summaries, paraphrases, and direct quotations.
- Learn that research is important in persuasive writing as a means of exploring a variety of perspectives
- Evaluate, analyze and synthesize others' ideas so as to develop and support student writer's argument and purposes
- Provide correct attribution (in-text and reference page) for a variety of source materials (scholarly, popular, on-ground, and on-line) using APA citation format
- Identify and practice the use of APA bibliographic citation style. Students will master the APA cover page (including use of running head), and will practice the conventions of in-text citations and reference lists.
- Evaluate sources and practice locating and using at least one scholarly source, one Internet source, and one source from a Robert Morris University electronic data base. Students will practice using the Robert Morris Electronic library as well as the Robert Morris University "on-ground" library.

**Topics:**

Your topic will be the controversial issue examined in your informative research paper. For this paper, the approach to the topic will be argumentative rather than informative.

**Process:**

- review the research gathered for the informative paper in order to take a position on the issue
- form a supportable argument/ assertion/ thesis statement in order to persuade a general academic audience (instructor and class peers) to accept your position, or to recognize your position as reasonable and viable, worth consideration
- write an argument research paper, based on research sources, documented per APA standards

**Length/ Development/ Format:**

- Format the paper according to APA standards, including title page, abstract, and references page
- Develop the essay -- 5 (full) to 6 pages, excluding the title page, abstract, and references page.
- Double-space, using 12pt times new roman (or similar) font.

**Required Sources:**

- 5 to 7 credible sources must be cited in the paper. (Sources can be cited more than once.)
  - at least three of the sources should be scholarly sources from academic library databases (peer reviewed sources may be included, but are not required)
  - at least one of the sources should be a credible, reliable Web source (see *Writing Arguments*, *Writing Matters*, *Language Awareness*, and the Purdue OWL site for reliability guidelines)

**note:** no Wikipedia, no general encyclopedias, no blog sites, no emails, tweets, etc.

**note:** only one article from Issues and Controversies may be used/ cited

**note:** You are welcome to use the sources which you researched for the informational paper --  
You are also welcome to research and use other and additional sources.

**Organization:**

- The essay should follow the Classical organizational pattern (see chpt.3 *Writing Arguments*), or a variation of this pattern, unless the topic clearly justifies a different organization