

Source Evaluation Essay

SUBMISSION METHOD:	Upload to submission folder on iCollege
FILE NAME:	LASTNAME_P3.DOC or .DOCX (WORD FILETYPE ONLY)
DUE:	4 NOV 2018 by 11:59pm
EVALUATION:	100 point possible; see attached rubric for details

This assignment is one component of your final research project and will help you learn and practice skills necessary to complete the final research essay. So far you have created a Multimodal Argument, in which you evaluated various sides of an issue. You then wrote a Research Proposal in which you described what issue you found interesting, why, and your projected steps and obstacles in researching evidence to test your interesting question against. Now we will turn our attention to the sources that you've found as you've been researching your topic.

For this paper, you will find a scholarly peer-reviewed article and write 750-1000 word essay that evaluates your article according to a set of objective criteria. Your essay should summarize the author's argument and consider (among other things) the author's audience, types of appeals, and persuasiveness. For this essay, ideally you will evaluate the source that you intend to rely upon the most for your final supported argument essay.

You should choose one of the sources that you plan to use in your final research paper as your text for analysis. Be sure to examine how and how effectively the author uses ethos, pathos, and logos as well as more subtle rhetorical tools. You can choose an article with which you agree, disagree, or a little of both. Just keep in mind that you will be expected to turn a very critical—but fair—eye on it and that you will be making an argument of your own. That is, your thesis will be essentially describing how effective (or not) you think the argument of the source text is, and the body of the paper will be supporting that claim. The analysis should be 750-1000 words in length and adhere to MLA 8th edition format.

Some things you should pay attention to while you read the article (and necessary points in your essay):

- Summary of the entire article
- Who is the author(s) of the work? When was the work published?
- What are the author's credentials for writing and publishing this work?
- Who is the intended audience? How do you know?
- Is the information objective and impartial?
- Does the author present evidence to support the interpretations made? Or does the source consist mainly of an individual's opinion?
- Are the author's sources clearly and adequately indicated so that they can be verified?
- Are the author's sources current, or are they outdated?
- Who is the publisher, or what is the sponsoring organization of the work?
- How does the author use ethos, pathos, and logos to articulate their point(s)?
- What, if anything, is lacking from the work? Is there an important issue not addressed?
- What has the author done successfully in this article?

- What do you agree and disagree with? Why?
- Do you find biases or contradictions in work?

Nuts and Bolts:

- 750-1000 words
- MLA 8th edition format
- Don't forget your works cited page and don't forget a descriptive title for your essay
- The article you review **should not be more than 10 years old**
- Remember to set your search parameters to show only scholarly (peer reviewed) sources—OR YOU CAN USE A BOOK CHAPTER FROM AN EDITED COLLECTION IF IT IS FROM AN ACADEMIC PRESS (ask if you have questions)
- If you are unsure whether your source is appropriate for this assignment, ask me and I will review it

	Absent/Beginning (1)	Developing (2)	Competent/Adequate (3)	Advanced/Sophisticated (4)
Thesis is specific, arguable, addresses the source, and is situated correctly				
Summarizes source thoroughly (with proper attribution)				
Clearly establishes position with regard to source's argument				
Essay has coherent organizational structure with topic sentences/paragraphs developed to support thesis				
Essay displays a strong awareness of purpose and audience				
Evidence is included and is compelling, credible, accurate, and current				
Evidence from source material is integrated into the argument well and with proper citation				
MLA 8 th ed. format is followed for essay, in-text citations, and Works Cited page				
Grammar/ Mechanics (correctness and proofreading)				
			TOTAL	Out of 36