

Research Essay

- Drafts Due: 11/6 (draft), 11/20 (final)
- Length: 6-8 pages
- Discussing at least 10 sources from your individual research
- Percentage of grade: 25%

For this research project you'll be discovering a conversation in the anthropology discourse community, evaluating and analyzing the different points of view therein, and moving it forward with a unique viewpoint of your own. You will effectively argue a position, structuring your essay with a thesis, reasons, support (evidence), your position, acknowledging other positions, and refuting other positions. This project is the culmination of the skills and knowledge you've gained in the writing section regarding literacy, discourse communities, and rhetorical situations, as well as the knowledge you gained from the topics section.

Preparation.

Before you begin building your essay and finish your research entirely, I'd like to meet with each one of you to discuss the direction and possible structure your research essay could take. To help you do this, I will ask about the inquiry that has driven your research (research question) and discuss for three sources that have been most helpful to you in exploring it

- Your research question and subsequent thesis should be
 - Researchable and nonbiased
 - Open to answers from multiple viewpoints
 - Focused enough so the answer it yields can be explored exhaustively in a 6-8 page essay
- What you should know for the one-on-one meeting
 - What information from each article you'll be using for your essay
 - What the general conversation is around your topic
 - How you will be advancing this conversation
 - What information you will still need

Research paper

In this paper you will create a unique argument that engages with a current scholarly conversation. To accomplish this you will need to:

- Give the reader all the information necessary to understand your point of view on the subject discussed
- Summarize the current scholarly conversation
- Explain how your point of view fits into this conversation, and argue its validity with supporting evidence.
- Assess different major points of view on this issue, analyzing the methods and ideas of the authors to support or complicate your discussion.
- Cite at least 10 references in MLA form both in the text and in a Works Cited page at the end of your essay