

Research Assignment

College Writing Fall 2017

Professor Rodgers

We have six weeks left in the semester. During this time, we will be working on a research assignment, assembling a course portfolio, and preparing for the final exam. These three activities are complementary. The objectives for the research assignment are to:

- Strengthen your reading comprehension skills
- Increase your understanding of differences in writing style, diction, tone, and structure across three genres reflective of three distinct rhetorical contexts—scholarly article, magazine article, and newspaper article
- Give you an opportunity to practice writing summaries
- Give you an opportunity to practice writing about texts using paraphrasing and quotation
- Give you an opportunity to compile an annotated bibliography using MLA formatting guidelines
- Give you an opportunity to become familiar with the process and stages involved in research writing as preparation for future college research writing projects

Ideally, this research assignment will have some clear purpose for you with regard to your specific major and/or your ongoing preparation for other college courses and/or your ongoing study of and practice with college writing. However, because we are all coming from very different programs of study, I am not entirely certain the Overview and Synthesis of Sources will be the most useful assignments for each one of you. For some, the Overview of Sources and Synthesis of Sources assignments that I have developed will be very useful. For others, they may not be. However, these assignments are the first steps in completing a researched writing project in the majority of disciplines. If, in addition to these assignments, you would like to write a draft of the research paper or propose your own supplemental writing project, I hope you will do so.

In terms of our work for the rest of the semester, due dates are as follows:

November 8: Research Assignment: Research Question Worksheet and ENG1101 Library Worksheet Due (RWA10)

November 15: Research Assignment: Research Source Cover Sheets (RWA11)

November 22: Annotated Bibliography (RWA12)

November 29: Research Assignment: Draft Overview of Sources Essay (RWA13)

December 6 Final Portfolios Due/Final Exam Prep

December 13: Final Exam

