<mark>Argument with Sources: Criteria for Success</mark>
Be sure to check the items below before submitting.

☐ **Creative Title (Capitalize Important Words in Titles) and MLA-style Header**

☐ **Claim/Thesis:** The major claim/thesis is ▫ clear, ▫ concise, ▫ complex,
▫ debatable, ▫ original, ▫ <u>underlined</u>, and ▫ suggests how the essay is organized.

☐ **Organization:** ▫ The introduction grabs the reader's attention with a narrative hook. ▫ All components of thesis are alluded to in the introduction, *i.e.* nothing in the thesis "comes out of the blue". ▫ Body paragraphs are logically and seamlessly organized in the service of the major claim, *i.e.* they establish a line of reasoning to prove the thesis. ▫ Body paragraphs include assertive topic sentences that anchor all the content in the paragraph. ▫ New body paragraphs are formed when natural shifts in the message occur. ▫ The information within paragraphs is logically and coherently organized. ▫ Writer strategically repeats key terms to increase coherence. ▫ Writer makes use of transitional sentences and clauses between and within paragraphs to help navigate ideas. ▫ The conclusion contains insight and discusses the significance of the claim for a greater conversation in society; conclusion may return to the introductory narrative for a satisfying finish.

☐ **Evidence, Reasoning, & Commentary:** ▫ The evidence is relevant. ▫ All claims are supported by evidence. ▫ The reasoning between evidence and claims is logical and effective. ▫ The writer comments throughout to increase the argument's coherence. ▫ Counter-arguments are addressed, and rebuttals are effective. ▫ The writer seamlessly introduces and integrates "quotable" quotes throughout, making sure to establish the author/source's reliability, *i.e.* Erica Thompson, <mark>an English teacher at Evanston Township High School</mark>, recently advised students to proofread by reading their essay aloud and running their finger over each word. ▫ The signal phrases that introduce quotes allude to the claim the evidence will help to prove, *i.e.* In his book, *Algorithms Run the World*, Jamal James, a former computer engineer at Google, <mark style="background-color:#00ff00">explains why the algorithm encourages addiction</mark>: "We want your eyeballs; we want your engagement; that's how we monetize the site and make money" (17).

☐ **Research:** ▫ The argument contains four sources (at least three are text; one is *Fahrenheit 451*). ▫ The sources are reliable, timely, and relevant. ▫ The writer uses proper MLA in-text citation format. ▫ Works Cited is in proper MLA format (mybib.com is free and easy).

☐ **Control of Language:** ▫ The writing voice is distinct. ▫ The writing is clear and concise (not wordy, no fluff). ▫ The writer uses active verbs, sophisticated vocabulary, parallel structure, and other techniques and strategies to propel the argument. ▫ The writer makes use of effective grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. ▫ There are no run-ons or ▫ fragments or ▫ subject-verb agreement errors or ▫ errors in use of *italics (book, newspaper, journal, and magazine titles)* and quotations ("article" and "chapter" titles).