Advanced Composition
Final Argumentative Paper

Dr. Silvio

Length: 12-20+ Pages

Sources: 10+ (only three of which can be from websites)

For your final essay, its time to put all of your research and ideas together and make your final argument. Aside from the things that we have been discussing all semester, this final essay needs to include:

--A clear thesis that states what your argument/main claim is.

--A well organized chain of supporting claims, each of which is backed up with evidence taken from your research. Remember that this paper is intended to advance your opinion. Thus, use your research to support your claims. The paper should not be simply a report on other people’s arguments.

Make sure you introduce each of these claims with clear topic sentences that refer back to the thesis and control the paragraphs that follow.

--Ample consideration and refutation of opposing arguments. Be sure that you describe possible counter-arguments to your position and demonstrate why these arguments are not convincing. This might be a good place to refer to the logical fallacies which we discussed in class or to include sections from your critique.

--Don’t forget to use a variety of support to bolster your claims. Emotional appeals or appeals to the basic values of your audience can be very effective in this type of writing.

--If necessary, provide historical background of your debate or clarify/define any technical terms that might be confusing to the audience. Note, however, that this will not be necessary in all cases.

You will turn in a folder with all of the required drafts and any in-class workshop activities that we do for this assignment. Your folder must be complete in order to receive full credit.