**Writing Project #2 – Argument**

**What are the due dates?**

* **Tuesday 10/13 -** Bring copy of first outside source
* **Tuesday 10/20 -** Bring copies of second and third outside sources
* **Tuesday 10/27**
  + 1st draft due by email in a MS Word attachment to michael.miller2@baruch.cuny.edu
  + Bring 4 copies to class for peer review.
* **Friday 11/6** – Revision due in hard copy at start of class

**What is the assignment?**

Write a 1,250-1,500 word (5-6-page) persuasive essay in which you take a position on a matter of current controversy in New York City. Your essay must include at least 3 outside sources, with at least 1 each of the following types of sources

* at least 1 source supporting your argument
* at least 1 source providing data to support your argument
* at least 1 source presenting a counter argument.

No more than one of your sources may be Web-based and at least two must be print-based (although you may access these through a library database). Your essay must also include at least 2 illustrations in the form of graphs, charts, tables, photographs, and/or maps.

**What course objectives does this assignment address?**

* rhetorical knowledge
* writing & reading processes
* critical thinking, reading, writing, & research
* composing in manual and digital environments
* knowledge of academic conventions.

**What steps will I take to complete this project?**

1. Brainstorm possible subjects. These may include policing (stop-and-frisk, “broken windows”, homelessness, affordable housing, gentrification, etc.)
2. Take a Position on your topic. This will be the basis of your thesis statement in the form of an argument. Your position may agree with a current proposal, agree in part with some modification, or propose an entirely new solution.
3. Research your topic, including what others have argued about it, and whatever date you need to support your position.
4. Draft your argument and include your illustrations.
5. Revise your draft (text and images) based on feedback from your classmates and from me.

**What sources might I use as models for this assignment?**

* You will locate primary and secondary sources through your own research.

**What objective criteria must the assignment meet?**

* Your observation must be at least 1,250-1,500 words (approximately 5-6 double-spaced pages excluding illustrations).
* Choose language and rhetorical strategies appropriate to your stated role, audience, and purpose.
* Avoid common rhetorical fallacies, basing your argument on data and supporting arguments generated by your research.
* Include at least 2 illustrations (graphs, charts, tables, photographs, and/or maps). Illustrations must also adhere to the stylistic and rhetorical conventions you establish in your essay and must include an explanatory key or a caption.