Composition 2

Fordham University, Spring 2022

Final Paper Guidelines

For this assignment, you will compose a 7-10 page paper in which you synthesize research on a topic of your choosing to answer (or begin to answer) your inquiry question(s).

In your essay, you should:

* Leave readers with a clear understanding of your inquiry question(s) and the answer(s) to your inquiry question(s). Stay focused on your question throughout the paper.
* Use your research to develop claims that you support with evidence drawn from your research
* Use both academic sources and non-academic sources for a total of at least 6 sources and document these sources appropriately using MLA, APA, or Chicago style
* Follow the structural and stylistic conventions of academic writing
  + Formal tone/word choice
  + Paragraphs use topic sentences, evidence, analysis, and transitions
  + Each paragraph stays focused on one topic or subtopic
  + Can use “I,” but please don’t use “you” (in the sense of “you’re probably thinking that…”)
* Use at least 5 rhetorical devices in your paper, 2 of which can be repeats
* Write a separate note explaining all of the intentional rhetorical choices you made in your essay (the above devices, but also appeals to ethos/logos/pathos, choices you made based on how you want to present yourself as a speaker, based on your message, based on your audience—me, or your classmates, or an imagined broader audience, etc.)

Intentions for this paper:

* Rather than picking a *belief/position/opinion* you already have and using research to support that opinion, I want you to pick a *topic/question* that interests you and you want to learn more about. That doesn’t mean you can’t have beliefs about that topic, but it should be something you feel *open to new information about*.
* I want you to *genuinely learn something* via your research—that’s what research is supposed to do!
* Your inquiry questions should not be the kinds of questions where it’s easy to find a simple answer on Google.
* Your inquiry questions should also be *narrow/specific* enough that you aren’t trying to solve a huge global problem or write a whole book in just this one paper.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Final Paper Rubric (100 points)**

1. First and second drafts are turned in on time, peer review is completed in a timely manner, peer review is specific, thorough, and respectful (30 points) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Incorporates research effectively and appropriately to support the argument (10 points)

* All claims are backed up by evidence as needed, which is correctly cited (5 points)
* Quotes or paraphrases from sources are well-integrated into the paragraphs (no naked quotes) (5 points) \_\_\_\_

3. The paper uses evidence from reliable sources and/or addresses the potential biases of the source/information. If there are common criticisms of the main argument, the paper addresses those criticisms using evidence. (10 points) \_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Paragraphs and sections follow the structural conventions of Standard American Academic English (15 points)

* Paper includes an introductory section (may be more than one paragraph) that establishes the topic, the inquiry question(s), and the writer’s preliminary answer to the question(s) (5 points)
* Body paragraphs stay focused on individual claims supported by relevant evidence and use topic sentences and transition phrases (5 points)
* The paper includes a conclusion that explains why the inquiry is important and what readers should take away from the paper. (5 points) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Paper is correctly formatted in the student’s chosen citation style (5 points)

* Title page and/or header
* Abstract with keywords (if choosing a style that requires this)
* In-text citations are largely correct
* Works cited/references/bibliography page is largely correct \_\_\_\_\_

5. Follows the stylistic conventions of Standard American Academic English (5 points)

* Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, Formatting, Capitalization, Formality

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Includes at least 5 rhetorical devices (2 can be repeats), which the student has either labeled in the text or pointed out in a separate document. The student has also written a separate statement describing their intentional rhetorical choices in the paper. (15 points) \_\_\_\_

6. Other Requirements (10 points)

* Paper meets the length requirement
* At least 6 sources are used \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_ (out of 100)