

ENC 1102

Research Paper Assignment

DUE: 08/16/2020

Write a research paper based on the topic you selected last week. The research paper is an investigation, where you will present an argument / position on the topic, not based on opinion but on credible research. Let me say this again; **It is not an opinion paper**, but an argument based on what experts in the field say about the chosen topic.

Make sure your essay has a **title**. Try to make it interesting as to catch the reader's attention.

Keep your research papers **narrow and specific**, focused on the topic. **Do not** write a general overview of the topic or a vague summary of opinions. Your writing needs to concentrate on your argument and the supporting elements you have chosen.

Your paper should include facts, statistics, and other academic information pertinent to the topic.

Thesis Statement: Your research paper **MUST** have a thesis statement. You must provide the **main idea** and at least **three arguments** or reasons to support the main idea of your thesis statement.

Essay Body: Each body paragraph must be about **one of the arguments** you provided in your thesis statement, starting with a **topic sentence** declaring which point the paragraph will deal with. The topic sentence **MUST** be the first sentence of each of your body paragraphs.

Conclusion: In the conclusion of your research paper you will revisit your thesis statement. **You will also explain why your**

argument and the points you use are important to understanding the topic and views you have selected.

Format

- Length: **5-6 Pages** Minimum
- Font: Times New Roman / Size **12**
- Spacing: Must Be **DOUBLE-SPACED**
- Format: Must have **MLA** Heading / Last Name & Page Numbers

Work Cited

A Works Cited page **is mandatory** for this assignment. It must be the last page of your research paper but does not count towards the total number of pages of required writing.

Sources

- You must have a minimum of **FIVE sources** dated after 2000
- Your sources **can include**:
 - Books
 - Academic Journals / Articles
 - Verifiable Interviews
- It **cannot include**
 - Websites that are not official academic pages such as that of universities
 - Wikipedia
 - Online essays from other students

Things to Remember

- You **CANNOT** write in first person
 - I think, In my opinion, us, we, me, mine, my.
- You **CANNOT** write in second person
 - You (Do not address the reader)
- Make sure your **MLA heading** is correct, specially the date format
 - It should be this way: **16 August 2020**
 - Make sure your pages have your **last name and page number** on the upper-right hand corner of your paper.
- **Parenthetical Citations** should only include the last name of the author and either page number if available or year if page number is not available
 - Example 1 (Smith 158)
 - Example 2 (Smith 2020)
- Do not use **contractions!**
 - Can't, isn't, don't, that's, and any other.
- Provide **specific** examples, facts, and statistics illustrating your points
- **Revise** for grammar and spelling issues. Then, **revise again**.
- **Similarity Report** should not be above **15%**

Do not forget to have proper sources and use parenthetical citations when referring to them in your writing. This time it is mandatory to use sources and have a Works Cited page. Refer to the videos from previous weeks for further information.