**WR 152 Op-Ed Writing (10% of Grade)**

**Due Dates:**

**Draft due for Peer Reviews by class time:** Tuesday, Oct 7

**Final version due:** Thursday, Oct 16

Write a **750–800-word Op-Ed** for a non-specialist audience about an important issue related to technology with implications for society. Your Op-Ed should present a strong, informed and focused opinion, intended for a lay reader.

**Address** a specific aspect of the topic that is both important and timely.

**Consider** your intended audience when making rhetorical decisions, such as about how much background information to include or what tone to use.

**Make** a specific, unique, well-supported, and logical argument about your topic.

**Use** key features of the Op-Ed genre that we have discussed in class, including a strong opening, short paragraphing, an acknowledgment of alternative points of view, and a solution or call for action near the end of your essay.

**Suggested Op-Ed structure**:

**Status quo** – the current situation / background / what people believe

**Problem** – the main problem or wrong belief that needs correction

**Significance** – Why arguing about this topic matters

**Solution** – How the problem should be resolved

Rubric

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| **Category** | **Questions** | **Points** |
| Introduction/Hook | Does the introduction grab the reader’s attention? Is there enough background information provided so the issue or problem can be understood? | 3 |
| Main Point | Is there a clearly defined problem and a point of view related to the problem in the Op-Ed? | 2 |
| Organization, Logic, Evidence | Is the organization and logic of the Op-Ed clear with solid reasons and evidence provided to support reasons? | 3 |
| Counterarguments | Are possible counterarguments to the Op-ed’s claims examined and addressed? | 2 |
| Language | Does the word choice, tone, and writing style thoughtfully reflect the target audience? | 2 |
| Solution | Is there a solution provided, steps suggested, or is there a call to action? | 3 |
| **Total Score:** | | 15 |