

Documented Essay Assignment

Purpose:

The purpose of this essay assignment is to practice writing longer academic essays; practice finding reliable, academic sources; and improve your ability to use sources effectively. You will be required to use a Works Cited page to document your sources.

Essay Prompt:

Writing a documented paper involves integrating your ideas about the topic with the ideas of experts. Your research will be a search for facts and opinions about this topic. You will then add these ideas to your own opinions and knowledge to create an original paper. This assignment is similar to the synthesis essay except you will choose your own sources.

Write a 3-4 page documented essay using illustration or argument about any academic topic.

You may be asking yourself where do I begin?!?

1. Start by doing some kind of prewriting activity, such as brainstorming, to help you come up with a topic.
2. Try to think of a thesis statement. The thesis should show the reader something important or state your position on a debatable point.
3. Make an outline.
4. After you form a plan, start writing your rough draft. Do most of your writing before you try to put quotations in.

To find the articles, you should use scholar.google.com. Try to find two or three articles that you can get quotes from. Do not use more than 5 different articles. Remember that your sources need to be from reliable, academic sites.

Other requirements:

- Minimum of 5 body paragraphs
- Minimum of 1 citation per body paragraph
- MLA format, including Works Cited page