**Writing an Argument (Paper 3)**

**What’s in an argument paper and how is it organized?**

* Introduce the issue and your position on the issue. Include a thesis statement with your position.
* Explain and describe the issue.
* Address the opposition (what does the other side say?)
* Provide evidence to support your position.
* Offer your conclusion.

Take a stance on an issue and defend your position against attacks from the other side. You are asked to choose an issue, present a viewpoint about it, and support it with reasoning and evidence. Remember these basic points:

* **Choose a debatable issue.**  Without a debate, there is no argument.
* **Present a clear, definite viewpoint.** Readers do not want to guess your position. Although you present both sides of a position, readers must be clear about **which side you support.**
* **Support your viewpoint with reasoning and evidence.** Be sure to appeal to ethos, logos, pathos, and kairos.
* **Identify counterclaims (dissenting opinions).** When you address differing or contradictory opinions, show **empathy**, the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, for those with dissenting views. Neither antagonize nor dismiss the opposition.

**Annotated Bibliography (Paper 2)**

**Purpose:**

* To move beyond simply collecting sources to interacting with them
* To read each source more closely than you would otherwise, think about it more critically, and strengthen your ownclaims on the topic.
* To provide you with perspectives beyond your own ideas and helps you understand where your claims fit into the broader body of knowledge on the topic
* Help other scholars by providing an overview of the sources and breadth of knowledge about the research surrounding a given topic
* They help you organize your own research on a topic and narrow your topic, thesis, or argument.
* They help you build knowledge.
* They strengthen your arguments by offering proof that your research comes from trustworthy sources.
* They give credit to authors and sources from which you draw and support your ideas.

**Annotated Bibliography Format:**

* 1. **Documentation entry (bibliographic information)**
  2. Short **description** of the work, including information about its authors and how it was or can be used in a research project.
  3. **Evaluation** of the work’s validity, reliability, and/or bias. The purpose of the

annotation is to summarize, assess, and reflect on the source.

**\*\*\* You need at least four sources\*\*\***

EXAMPLE:

BIBLOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:

Berners-Lee, M., et al. “Current Global Food Production Is Sufficient to Meet Human Nutritional Needs in 2050 Provided There Is Radical Societal Adaptation.” *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*, vol. 6, 2018, online.ucpress.edu/elementa/article/doi/10.1525/elementa.310/112838/Current-global-food-production-is-sufficient-to. Accessed 7 Dec. 2020.

DESCRIPTION:

M. Berners-Lee and the other authors of this article—C. Kennelly, R. Watson, and C. N. Hewitt—all are associated with Lancaster [UK] University. In this article, they present a quantitative analysis of global and regional food supply, following the flow of calories, protein, and selected micronutrients from production to human consumption. Clear tables and figures accompany the text. A reference list of 55 books, scholarly articles, and official reports provides sources for additional information

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EVALUATION:

Of particular **value** is that the paper first analyzes **current** policies and practices in food production, then offers projections for two scenarios. One scenario assumes that current policies and practices continue unchanged. The other explains what policies and practices need to be implemented to supply a healthy diet globally in 2050. This information makes it **possible** **to describe what success** looks like and also what **failure looks like.**

**Useful Sites:**

**The Purdue Owl**

**https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\_and\_citation/mla\_style/mla\_formatting\_and\_style\_guide/mla\_works\_cited\_electronic\_sources.html**

**Drexel Library**

[**https://www.library.drexel.edu/**](https://www.library.drexel.edu/)

**Google Scholar**

**Tips for Finding Sources:**

**The CRAAP Test**

You may find the CRAAP test a helpful and easy-to-remember tool for testing credibility. This checklist provides you with a method for evaluating any source for both reliability and credibility. CRAAP stands for **Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose**. The CRAAP test, as shown in [Table 14.2](https://openstax.org/books/writing-guide/pages/14-1-compiling-sources-for-an-annotated-bibliography#table-00002), includes questions that can be asked of any source.

Choosing sources to include in your annotated bibliography may seem overwhelming. However, if you can find a few good academic articles as a starting point, use them to guide your research. Academic articles are efficient, scrutinized by experts in their fields, and organized in ways that aid readers in identifying key findings that relate to their argument. The following tips will help you choose solid sources to guide your research:

* **Look for relevant scholarly articles.** Even the briefest Google search can yield an overwhelming amount of content. Sift through it by looking first through **academic databases** to find high-quality sources relevant to your research.
* **Read abstracts.** As you sift through scholarly articles, you can get a good idea of what each one is about by **reading the abstract**. It includes the findings and will show you in about **100 words** whether the paper holds relevance to your research.
* **Skim.** Once you have determined that an article may be useful, **skim each section to glean the information you need.** Closer and more extensive reading can come later as you develop and support your argument.
* **Avoid getting bogged down** in technical information or industry-specific jargon. The benefit of reading peer-reviewed research is that you know the reviewers have determined it to be solidly constructed. Therefore, even if you don’t understand some portions completely, **you can still feel confident about using relevant information from the article.**
* **Work smarter** by using the research provided. Once you have identified an article that is helpful to your research, use it to find more like it. Search for other publications **by the authors;** researchers often spend much of their careers researching one overarching topic or theme. **Use the review of literature to identify related articles that may add to your research. You can also use the article’s bibliography to find additional sources.** Or reverse engineer the process: use article databases to find other articles that cite the article in their literature reviews.