

MODULE 5: ESSAY #3 (over Legalizing *Recreational Cannabis*)

Due Date: Monday, April 7, by 11:59pm CST, 3–5 double-spaced pages (of body text; the Works Cited page will always be a separate last page). **Submit as a Word document (.docx or .doc) within Module 5 of Canvas. Be sure you submit this Essay #3 within Module 5; otherwise, the Canvas Gradebook cannot calculate your grade.**

Outline for Essay #3: Follow This Outline

I. Introduction

- A. Open with quotation, statistic, or anecdote.
- B. State Thesis: Topic + Your Point of View (containing issues #1, #2 & #3 for which you will argue).

[Smooth, logical transition sentence]

II. Refutation of the Opposition

- A. Define, clarify, or explain issue #1 your opponents support.
- B. Define, clarify, or explain issue #2 your opponents support.

[Smooth, logical transition sentence]

III. Your Argument for Issue #1

- A. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.
- B. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.

[Smooth, logical transition sentence]

IV. Your Argument for Issue #2

- A. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.
- B. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.

[Smooth, logical transition sentence]

V. Your Argument for Issue #3

- A. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.
- B. Include a specific example, fact and/or quotation of how or why opponents are wrong.

[Smooth, logical transition sentence]

VI. Conclusion

- A. Return to your thesis and reinforce it (do not simply restate it; say it in different words).
- B. Close with a memorable quotation, anecdote, or an appeal to your audience's sense of justice and fairness.

Before Submitting: Follow and apply this [English Essay Final Draft Checklist](#).

Unlike like Essay #1 and Essay #2, all students will write on the following topic:

Should we legalize recreational cannabis throughout all 50 states?

Note: Notice the emphasis on *recreational* and not medical cannabis. This emphasis is because currently only 3 states (Idaho, Nebraska, and South Dakota) do not have some form of cannabis use law.

Common Pros and Cons of Legalizing *Recreational* Cannabis:

Reasons to Legalize (Pros)	Reasons Not to Legalize (Cons)
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Economic gain (Taxation)2. Lower incarceration rate3. Reduction of organized crime4. Employment (jobs)5. Decrease racial prison sentencing6. Less harmful than hardcore narcotics7. Alcohol & Cigarettes already regulated8. Citizens of States pass their own laws	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Medical hazards2. Addiction (psychological/physiological)*3. Corrupt innocent youth4. Impair work/schoolwork productivity5. Gateway drug6. Anti-Federal Statues7. Too early to know medical hazards8. Cannabis a Federal crime (Schedule 1)

***ADDICTION:** to qualify as addiction a behavior *must* include all 3: 1. Repetitive
2. Pleasure seeking
3. Damaging

WARNING: ***DO NOT*** use and/or rely upon information in the cannabis or marijuana sections of the procon.org website. The sources they use are NOT reliable and/or verifiable. If you do use this website in your Essay #3, your essay will lose many points.

- For more information on legalization visit NORML.org; if GSU still blocks this site, try accessing it on a device not using the GSU wi-fi and/or server.
- [Follow this Sample MLA Paper](#) for formatting and documenting style.
- Visit Purdue University's [Online Writing Lab for MLA Style](#) Questions & Formatting