

Second Assignment Sequence

Short Assignment 3: RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Outcomes Targeted: 1, 2, 3

In professional and academic situations, proposals are often used as a way to plan larger projects, but also to gain support for them (in the form of money, institutional legibility, and other resources). As such, a successful proposal situates the author as credible and the project as both feasible and valuable.

Your Task:

For this assignment, you will write a 2-3 page **proposal** that outlines your goals for Major Project 2, why your argument matters (and for whom), and how you plan to accomplish the task. This is a moment for you to pause and reflect on exactly what you are planning so that you can identify areas that may need more work or things you want to explore from a different perspective.

Your proposal should:

- 1) Articulate a **tentative claim** for Major Project 2 (remember—because this process is inquiry-based, you may find that your claim changes as you think about and research your topic)
- 2) Explicitly address the **stakes** of the claim
- 3) Identify the possible **counter-arguments** and assumptions of your claim, and point to how you might address them
- 4) Give a very brief overview of the **sources** you plan to work with (this may just be an overview of the kinds of sources you will work with, such as other critical readings of your text or contemporary theories of intersectionality)
- 5) Contain a tentative, very general **outline**—what shape do you imagine the paper taking? What structure would work well, given the parts of your complex claim?

Formatting: 500-750 words total, including the writer's memo (2-3 pages), MLA heading, page numbers, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins

DUE DATE: Post to canvas by 11:59 P.M. on Friday, February 5.

Instructor Belle Kim
ENGL 131 K

Short Assignment 4: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Outcomes Targeted: 2

This short assignment is designed to help you locate and make effective use of secondary sources for your Major Paper 2. An Annotated Bibliography is a list of sources (in MLA Works Cited page format) that provides a summary of each text and how it will be used in your paper/project.

Each annotation should include:

- Information about the writer (a sentence or two)
- A summary of the text's most important and relevant information
- How you will use the text in your own argument for Major Paper 2—be specific!

In crafting a summary, remember to move from broad to specific. Start with the source's overall argument and then quickly begin to hone in on the part of that argument that is most relevant to your own project. These summaries should also be active summaries, meaning that you are analyzing each source's utility and directly drawing connections to your own work. Remember that your overall purpose is to provide a sense of a cohesive project that showcases your ability to perform and use research.

Requirements:

You must use **THREE scholarly** secondary sources. Each annotation should be at least **250** words.

Formatting: 750-1000 words (3-4 pages), MLA heading, page numbers, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins

DUE DATE: Post to canvas by 11:59 P.M. on Friday, February 12.

Major Paper 2: ARGUMENTATIVE RESEARCH PAPER

Outcomes Targeted: 1, 2, 3

In this assignment, you will build upon the critical thinking and writing skills that we have been developing in class. In the first assignment sequence, you learned how to write for different audiences and genres and reflect upon your rhetorical choices. You learned how to summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize complex texts in strategic, focused ways in order to advance a claim that was developed from your rhetorical analysis. You also learned how to incorporate personal narratives into an academic essay and use specific writing strategies to create your own extended definition of an abstract term (“citizenship”).

Your Major Paper 2, an **argumentative research paper**, will incorporate the skills you have developed throughout this course *and* help you develop new skills in research. For this assignment, you will:

- **Generate your own topic on some aspect of citizenship.** You can choose to focus on an issue that arises from an aspect of citizenship that we have discussed in class (immigration and legal citizenship; linguistic citizenship; cultural citizenship; class and citizenship; consumer citizenship). Or, you can branch out into other aspects of citizenship that we have not covered in class.
- **Make an argument about your topic.** This argument must be clearly stated in a working thesis statement. All body paragraphs must be focused and organized, clearly relating back to your thesis.
- **Research sources appropriate to your topic, and effectively use those sources as evidence to support your arguments.** Although you may use the texts from *Context fir Inquiry*, you must research and use **at least three** outside sources that are academic and scholarly in nature. We will discuss research methods and ways to incorporate sources into your writing in class.
- **Cite all sources using MLA Format.** Your paper must include proper parenthetical citations and a Works Cited page.

Remember that a well-researched paper will include a variety of **reputable and reliable sources**. At least **one** of your three sources must be a **scholarly book or a peer-reviewed article** from a scholarly journal. While you are encouraged to reference **primary sources** (political cartoons, advertisements, opinion columns, a short story, etc.), these **will not count** toward your three required sources.

Length and Format

5-7 pages (1250-1750 words), double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, MLA formatting and Works Cited Page.

**DUE DATE: Post your first draft to Canvas by class time on Monday, February 22.
Your second draft is due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, February 28.**