

Project 4 Reflective Argument Essay



Overview: As a culminating project for this course, you will write a reflective argument essay that looks back on course readings, projects, and discussions and makes realizations about what you've learned in the course in terms of digital literacies. The reflective argument essay should be 3-4 pages (900-1200 words) in length and should include quotes, summary, and/or paraphrase of at least three sources (which could include your own projects, as well as other course readings or even feedback from your me, your professor). Your integration of sources should support an overall point or argument about your growth and/or learning in the course. Finally, a Works Cited page in APA or MLA style is required for this essay.

Reflective Argument Essay – An essay that makes a claim about how your understanding of writing has changed or expanded over the course of the semester. You should be able to make an argument about how you've grown as a writer.

The Reflective Argument Essay is a chance for you for you to make an argument about the major concepts, skills, and ideas you've learned this semester and how, as a result, you've grown as a writer. Think all the way back to some of our early readings and topics in the course.

What were some of the readings that left an impression on you.

What about the projects? Which ones were your favorite/s?

Which ones helped you grow as a writer?

Your task for this part of Project 4 will be to review and reflect on all of this in order to come up with your own argument about what you've learned and/or how you've grown as a writer. To support this argument, you'll draw on your experiences, course readings, and assignments, using quotes and summary as evidence for your thesis. The reflective argument essay should be 3-4 pages (900-1200 words) in length and should include quotes, summary, and/or paraphrase of at least three sources (which could include your own projects, as well as other course readings). Finally, a Works Cited page in MLA or APA style is required for this essay.

Example Thesis: One of the main things that has helped me grow as a writer this term has been the time we've spent thinking about different forms and styles of writing. We went from a narrative, thesis-seeking form in the first essay to working on a more academic thesis-driven form in the second. Understanding the difference between these two forms and the genres they are part of helped me better understand writing.

Example thesis/argument: Throughout my English 101 course, I have come to understand just how important it is for writers to be flexible in order to adapt to new tools and technologies for communicating their message. I first discovered this idea as I reflected on my own literacy upbringing, and the important role that social media played in my development as a writer. However, as I worked through the next two major assignments in our class, my understanding of this need for flexible digital literacy deepened as I made connections between our readings and the digital tools I was exploring. This essay is a reflection on those connections.

Rough Draft, Revision and Individual Conference for Reflective Essay

A separate element of this assignment involves the on-time completion of a rough draft of your essay and participation in the peer review for revision, as well as individual conference with your professor.

Evaluation Criteria

- Reflect on and come up with a claim about your growth as a writer this semester
- Use a thesis-driven OR thesis-seeking form
- Thesis/Argument is identifiable
- Use course readings, outside research, and your experiences with projects to generate a claim and to demonstrate and support your points.
- Contains quotes from at least two sources (and summary, paraphrase, or quotes from at least three sources)
- An essay that meets all of the technical requirements of the assignment: 900-1200 words in length, and that follows the conventions of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and appropriate documentation/citation and professional formatting
- Contains a Works Cited page with at least 3 sources
- The body of the essay develops organized reflections about your experience as well as synthesis and summary of your secondary sources
- The entire essay demonstrates attention to organization and structure and contains an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Follow MLA style and format and include a header with student name, professor name, class, and date, and a "Works Cited" page that lists sources in MLA format.