

 <p>Our topics are listed below, and additional sources are posted on our class website.</p>	<p>Assignment: Write a research paper on one of the issues we've been discussing this semester by including information from <i>a minimum of eight sources</i>.</p> <p>Essay #4 is the completion of a project we began with Essay #3. Use, revise, and build on Essay #3 to create Essay #4, which will include your own research and a minimum of eight (8) sources. While Essay #3 was a 4-page paper, Essay #4 will be revised and extended to 6-7 pages.</p> <p>Strive for a clear, well-organized, and well-supported essay in MLA format. See the Writing Goals (on the back) for more details.</p>
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ESSAY #4 MUST...	ESSAY #4 MUST ALSO...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a stand • Present reasons & explanations for its position • Provide support from sources for its position <p>THE ITEMS ABOVE WERE ALSO COVERED IN ESSAY #3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide background and history of the issue • Address counterarguments and/or potential challenges • Suggest specific actions to be taken • Include examples of current models of action <p>ESSAY #4 CAN INCLUDE ANY MIX OF SOURCES FROM OUR EARLIER ESSAYS BUT MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST FOUR SOURCES FROM YOUR OWN RESEARCH</p>

PROJECT TOPICS: Possibilities are broad, but you can choose to focus on the bulleted questions below

UNIT 1	<p>Academic Improvement: <i>Focus on a problem in education and what should be done about it</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should schools be giving more attention to noncognitive issues to improve academic success?
UNIT 2	<p>Gender Issues: <i>Focus on a problem due to gender stereotypes and what should be done about it</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should more effort be made to reduce gender disparity in the field of computer science?
UNIT 3	<p>Risks and Boundaries: <i>Focus on a controversy involving risk and what should be done about it</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should football, particularly high school and college football, continue to exist? • Should US immigration enforcement efforts be increased?

WRITING GOALS:

FOCUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain a clear focus through “sign-posting” and organization strategies. This means <i>signaling</i> key points clearly by presenting your thesis and topic sentences effectively (making them specific, assertive, and easy to find).• It also means having unified paragraphs that stay centered on one main idea.
FLOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use effective transitions to enhance organization as your essay moves from idea to idea.• Maintain tight connections by avoiding repetition and keeping related ideas together.• Handle quotes smoothly by using signal phrases to introduce them; avoid “dropped quotes.”
CONTENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support your main points with developed body paragraphs. When explaining and illustrating ideas, aim for specificity and detail. Paraphrase accurately, being fair to others’ words and ideas. For strong examples, select credible, relevant, authoritative, and accurate information.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Include a minimum of ten in-text citations.○ At least eight sources need to be used and cited.○ If including outside research, aim for sources that are credible, relevant, authoritative, and accurate, recognizing that the purpose of a source may not simply be to inform.• Make your presentation engaging. Take advantage especially of the spots where engaging your readers matters the most: the title, the opening, and the conclusion. Create interest in the topic and leave readers feeling like the topic matters to them.
CLARITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Include accurate MLA in-text citations and a works cited page.• Establish credibility by presenting academic-looking work. Make sure the type font, spacing, and margins are in MLA format, and be sure to carefully proofread your essay.

Avoid Plagiarism—don’t let another source speak for you and rob you of a chance to express yourself; if you use outside sources, give them credit; acknowledge, quote, and cite them whenever necessary.

Essays must be submitted to Turnitin.com through our Canvas site.

Evaluation Criteria: Papers will be evaluated on the effectiveness and clarity with which they address the assignment and meet its goals. See the online rubric for a checklist of goals for this essay.

Note: If you’d like to approach this assignment from a different angle, please talk with me beforehand.

Format: 6-7 complete pages (approx. 2100-2450 words), minimum, plus a works cited page. Use MLA style—that means typed, 12-point Times New Roman font, 1” margins, and double spaced.

Rough Draft: A rough draft for peer review is due before the final draft. Peer review includes two tasks:

- one out-of-class task credit earned for preparing two typed copies of a draft that’s a minimum of 5 complete pages. Students need to be in class, on time, ready to share drafts for task credit.
- one in-class task credit earned for being in class and providing helpful peer review for two students. Without a draft, one can’t participate in peer review since it leaves others without work to review.

Due Dates: See our Class Assignment Schedule.