

PAPER #3 DETAILS

For Paper #3, pick one of the textbook articles we've read thus far — review the “Course Calendar” on your syllabus (from pages 6 through 11, Weeks One through Eight) to see all of the textbook readings that have been assigned.

Pick one piece, and start researching in the Truman library databases to find relevant sources and ideas. Given our discussion of the reading in class, can you find articles that connect to the topic or topics covered in the textbook essay? Can you find sources that explain and expand upon the assigned reading?

Pursue research in the following areas, and make sure you look for sources from within the past ten years: 1. a database reference article or entry, 2. a database journalism (news) article, 3. a database scholarly-journal article, and 4. any relevant web site outside of Truman's databases (remember that the databases also provide outside web-site references for more info, for example Opposing Viewpoints) – you may use and cite the whole web site or a document/article on the site.

Once you have completed your research, start drafting an argumentative research paper that responds to and expands on the textbook essay while developing your own argument.

DRAFT OUTLINE

→ **INTRO:** Start by identifying the textbook essay that prompted your research, plus this essay's main argument or claim. Briefly discuss the topic or topics at the heart of the piece, and move toward your own thesis statement that clearly establishes your position. With respect to the textbook essay, you may agree or disagree with the author, agree with one aspect of the essay while disagreeing with another, or develop your own original position on one of the main ideas or topics discussed by the textbook author. This paper will prove your thesis through current database research. (For the intro, develop 1 to 2 paragraphs that lead toward a clearly established thesis.)

→ **BODY:**

- A. Facts of the Case
 - Construction of all relevant facts, definitions, historical background, etc.
 - Exposition of all relevant details, sources, and ideas as foundation for argument
- B. Opposition
 - Fair presentation of opposing viewpoints to your own that serve to critique and challenge your thesis
 - Even-handed construction of an alternate case to challenge your own
- C. Refutation: Fair and systematic rebuttal of Opposition
- D. Concession and Counter-Argument
 - Admission of a major point or points you will concede to the Opposition
 - Counter-argument to these points and reconstruction of stronger thesis
 - Final compelling arguments

→ **CONCLUSION:** End with one to two paragraphs that conclude your case, and finalize the argument with a thesis re-statement.

Use and cite all sources where appropriate and effective toward building your argument. The final draft will run from 3 to no more than 7 pages in length (NOT including the Works page).