

English 112  
Dr. Newmark

**Final Research Paper**  
**Ten Pages, with a Works Cited page as page eleven**

**Important dates:**

Paper topic presentations: Monday, November 16th, through Friday, November 20th

First draft due for Peer Review: Monday, November 23rd

Final Draft of Research Paper Due: Monday, December 7th

For your final paper, please pick a controversial topic related to education, race, or gender, in keeping with the argumentative essays we've examined over the course of this term. You will need to generate your own arguable claim, but please feel free to build on ideas we've discussed in class or that have been addressed on our blog. You may discuss two of these very capacious topics if you wish; for example, you might craft an argument that describes the ways in which "race" influences access to quality education in America. Or, you might investigate the ways gender expectations depend on the cultural traditions often associated with a certain "race." If you want to discuss a topic rooted in only one of these larger themes, that is fine as well (if you wanted, for example, to discuss the ways in which many primary schools in American subscribe to particular theories of curricular design, and the effect of this design, that would be OK).

Your job in this research paper is to write a proposal argument that addresses a manageable aspect of your broader topic as it affects a particular group of people. Please follow the guidelines for "proposal arguments" that I have posted on our website.

For this essay, you will need to do considerable research, to support your argument and to demonstrate that you understand opposing viewpoints. You will need to use two *primary texts* from our course (these can be essays we have read as a class or other essays that are in our textbook but were not assigned). Also, you must include an additional four *secondary research* sources. Three of these four sources must come from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals. Please be sure that you introduce each source in full – with author name and article title – before you quote from it. You must quote from each source at least twice. The source that is not from a scholarly journal can come from a government website, a policy institute, or another reputable internet source. Do not use online dictionaries or encyclopedias as sources in this paper.

Good luck! Be sure to begin thinking about the issue you wish to consider immediately. As you can see, your presentation is coming up soon! In your presentation, you must introduce your issue, forecast the proposal you plan to make, explain the community the issue concerns, explain its specific dimensions, and offer a brief discussion of those in favor of your proposal and those potentially against it.