

Student Paced Researched Argument Assignment with Modules

Due to COVID, one of the things that I've changed in my classroom is how we do certain assignments. Students are required to write research papers on a topic of their choosing. In the examples provided below they are writing on conspiracy theories

Standards and content are set for 11th Grade American Literature Class

Standards:

CC.1.2.11–12.B

CC.1.2.11–12.C

CC.1.2.11–12.E

CC.1.2.11–12.G

CC.1.2.11–12.H

CC.1.2.11–12.J

CC.1.2.11–12.L

CC.1.4.11–12.B

CC.1.4.11–12.C

CC.1.4.11–12.D

CC.1.4.11–12.E

CC.1.4.11–12.F

CC.1.4.11–12.G

CC.1.4.11–12.H

CC.1.4.11–12.I

CC.1.4.11–12.J

CC.1.4.11–12.K

CC.1.4.11–12.L

All assessments, handouts, and slides are available here:

<https://thevoyagingteacher.com/teaching-freebies/>

Researched Argument Assignment - 5 Week Research Unit

Americans are fans of the strange and unusual world of conspiracy theories. These theories permeate much of our media and tv show consumption as we learn more about the fascinating, and sometimes unusual, world around us. Your goal for this paper is to debunk a popular conspiracy theory as fiction.

You will choose a popular conspiracy theory and debunk it using sources from the internet. You must argue why the theory is false and provide a counterclaim as to why people choose to believe it. You do NOT have to choose one from my list however if you choose to do a separate one you must get it approved first. The following conspiracies are not an option: the big lie (2020 Election), Trump-Ukraine, Biden-Ukraine, and Hillary Clinton's emails.

Requirements

- 4-6 pages
- MLA Format
- 5 or more sources (CITED PROPERLY, if you can't remember how to do this see the grammar PowerPoint for MLA citations)
- A comprehensive outline
- First draft, second draft, and final draft
- Peer conference
- Teacher conference
- At least four sources must be cited in the body of the essay.
- Students will include works cited page at the end of their essay

MLA Formatting

Printing or Typing:

1. Research Papers must be typed
2. Times New Roman Font Only
3. 12 point font

Margins:

1. One-inch margins throughout the entire paper (this is consistent on Google Docs)
2. Indent the first word of a paragraph on half-inch (five spaces or one Tab space)
3. Indent long format quotations one inch (ten spaces) from the left margin

Spacing:

1. Double Space throughout the entire paper including quotations, notes, heading, and list of works cited.

Heading, Header, and Title:

1. No title page
2. Follow the formatting below as an example of the first page of an MLA format essay.

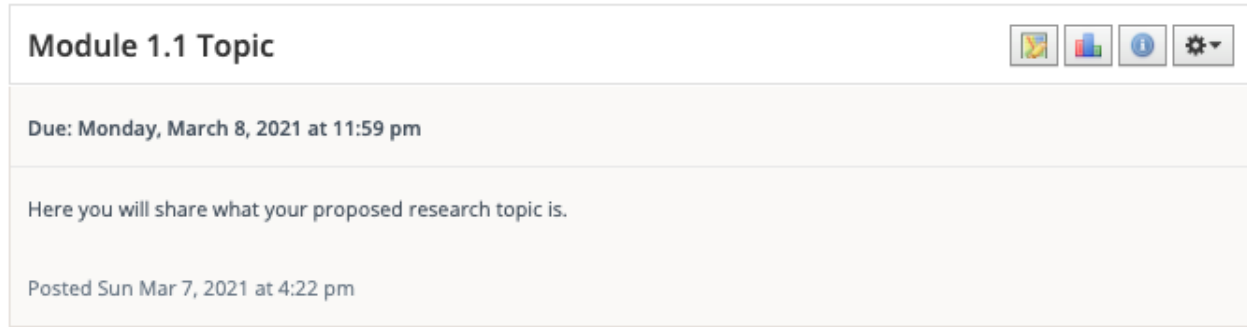
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1.1 Topic

Using a discussion board, create a discussion topic for students to share their research topics. They can be anything the student desires. This allows students to not only submit their topics but also see what topics their classmates are interested in.

Module 1.1 Topic



Due: Monday, March 8, 2021 at 11:59 pm

Here you will share what your proposed research topic is.

Posted Sun Mar 7, 2021 at 4:22 pm

1.2 - One Page Proposal

The goal here is to allow students to set a direction for their future paper. It does not have to be perfect, however, it is a good starting point for their first draft and can be the framework they need when doing research.

Module 1.2 - A Modest Proposal

Due: Thursday, March 11, 2021 · Section 51
Thursday, March 11, 2021 · Section 1

An essay is only as good as the argument that it makes. Here you must craft a 1 pager Argumentative essay that you will use as a basis for your final draft. This one-pager must explain why your chosen conspiracy theory is not true and go into a general explanation as to WHY it isn't true. It is ONE PAGE, double spaced, 12 point times new roman font. 3-5 fully formed paragraphs are acceptable.

Posted Sun Mar 7, 2021 at 4:22 pm

1.3 Finding Reliable Sources

An assessment via the Schoology platform (can be adjusted for Google Classroom or Canvas) that integrates click and drag mechanics on charts and graphs as well as content awareness through website analysis. The download link to this assignment can be found on my website below. Review for this assessment can be done after the due date to allow students to organize their thoughts ahead of time. Note: all but the CDC website are unreliable source due to the nature of the websites in question being either propaganda, open-source information, or unfounded science.

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1.4 A & B Citations

Peardeck enabled slides covering MLA citation methods with color coded sample citations and examples. 1.4 A is a step-by-step guide to creating and identifying issues within MLA citations. 1.4 B is an in-depth review of source integration and evidence using MLA citations.

1.5 Citation Practice

This assessment is also a click and drag assessment geared toward practicing the skills learned in 1.4 by requiring them to not only order citations in the correct sequence but also apply knowledge of in-text citations to practice questions. This assessment can also be found here through my website linked in the footnotes.

1.6 Finding Reliable Resources

Another PearDeck enabled assignment using two videos on Google Scholar and Wikipedia hyperlinks. This can be adjusted to fit your research needs. The slide deck is NOT available as it was specific to the resources I had available in my classroom. You can choose to do this as a whole class or student paced assignment.

1.7 Research Notecards

Google Slides enabled notecards with a master template that allows students to fill in each slot with their own information. It includes a sample slide with instructions.

1.8 Plagiarism

Student guided plagiarism ppt with check ins throughout. Also on my website.

2.1 Thesis Statements

Thesis statement powerpoint with guidelines for thesis writing, includes a check in via Peardeck that requires them to write a working thesis statement.

2.2 Paper Outline

Using a preferred outline, create a Google Docs assignment for students.

2.3 First Draft

3.1 Teacher Conference

Create a Google form that directs students to sign up for teacher conferences highlighting one or two things that they want you to specifically look for when reviewing their first draft.

3.2 Second Draft

A second draft with teacher edits

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3.3 Peer Review

Facilitate Breakout rooms for students to do peer review. They can either choose their own peer review partner or be assigned. One thing to stress is that they should be reading their partner's paper aloud to the partner once without stopping and then a second time stopping and marking as they go.

4 Final Draft

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