

## UNIT 1

**Assignment Type:** Individual Project **Deliverable Length:** Planning material, draft, 2 -3 page essay

**Points Possible:** 125

**Deliverable Length:** Three (3) parts--Planning material, rough draft, 2-3 page final essay that has no fewer than five paragraphs.

*IP 1 is a personal, expository essay assignment that should be based on your own ideas and supported by your own experiences or others' experiences that you have observed. The essay must not contain information researched from any sources (Library Internet, books, or newspapers).*

Using the four steps in the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, and editing), write a 2-3 page essay on one of the topics below:

- Discuss the following quote: "Good judgment comes from experience, and often experience comes from bad judgment." Rita Mae Brown
- Explain the unique strategies you have used to help you balance work, family, and school responsibilities.
- Compare your experiences as an online student to other educational experiences.
- Think about a childhood memory or experience that influences your life today, and explain why it stays with you.

Submit **all three (3) of the following** to your instructor: planning material, rough draft, 2-3 page final essay that has no fewer than five paragraphs.

- **Planning material**— Your pre-writing or planning material should demonstrate the use of two or more planning strategies. These can include detailed notes, journal entries, free writing, brainstorming, informal and formal outlines, maps, webs, or clusters. Choose the planning method that works best for you because you will need to generate as many ideas as you can about the topic of your choice with this planning.
  - For Unit 1, you can start your planning by journaling about the following prompts as one of your planning strategies to help you decide which one of the topics for the Unit 1 IP you will choose for your essay. Write for ten minutes about each prompt. Then determine which topic appeals the most to you based on how comfortable you are as you write about it. This exercise will count as one of the two required planning strategies.
    - (1) How has the use of good or bad judgment affected your life experiences? Have you been careless, cautious, wise, or gullible? What did you learn as a result of these experiences? How do you apply these lessons to your life?
    - (2) What do you do when you have several things that must be accomplished on the same day? How do you engage your family in your planning process? What strategies do you use to set priorities? When is work most important? School? Family?
    - (3) What makes going to school online a unique educational experience? How have you reached this conclusion? What appeals most and least to you? What insights have you gained from attending different kinds of schools? How do you feel about your education thus far? What have the highlights been? Have there been some really low points as well? What is your view from where you are now?
    - (4) What are some of your powerful memories? Why are they powerful? Are they associated with pleasant or painful memories? How do they influence your life and decisions today? Why do they have this influence?
- **Rough draft**--This should be a fully-developed draft of your essay including a title, introduction with thesis statement, body paragraphs with topic sentences, and conclusion. The rough draft must have no fewer than five paragraphs.
- **Final essay**--This essay should demonstrate your application of revision and editing so that the essay has unity, coherence, appropriate and sufficient content, and correct grammar and spelling. The final essay must have no fewer than five paragraphs.

**Assignment Type:** Discussion Board **Deliverable Length:** 2-3 paragraphs  
**Points Possible:** 60

**Part I:** According to Reinking and von der Osten (2005), "...writing is a process that takes time and work. Better writers are not born with their gift but learn through informed practice how to incorporate their ideas into a paper" (p.26). What is the "writing process" and why is it important to follow the steps instead of "crank[ing] out...papers in an hour or so of spare time" (p.26)?

**Part II:** Choose three items from the list below. Define your three chosen errors (see pages 641-657 and 705-727). Write two sample sentences for each choice: one that demonstrates the error and one that corrects the error. Describe how you plan to improve these areas in your writing during this class.

- Run-on Sentence
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Sentence Fragment
- Subject-Pronoun Agreement
- Confused Word Errors

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## UNIT 2

**Assignment Type:** Individual Project **Deliverable Length:** 3 essays, 350-400 words each  
**Points Possible:** 125

For this assignment you will be writing three essays using the rhetorical modes. Choose one of the topics listed below. Use this topic to write two personal essays (350-400 words each). The third essay (350-400 words) will be an analysis of your writing in the first two essays.

The first two essays are to be written in two different rhetorical modes regarding the subject matter that you selected. Remember to choose only one topic from below and explore it in two different ways by using two different rhetorical modes.

- For essay #1 use one of the following rhetorical modes: **Narration, Description, Classification, or Defining.**
- For essay #2 use one of the following rhetorical modes: **Process Analysis, Cause and Effect, Illustration, or Argument.**

In the third essay, you will analyze your writing in the first two essays and explain how each met the requirements of the particular rhetorical mode that you selected. (Consider how you met the requirements of the rhetorical modes used in the first two essays; how the essays are similar or different, etc.)

- For essay #3 use one of the following rhetorical modes: **Comparison or Process Analysis**

Select one of the following topics:

- Discuss the concept of "trust" in personal and professional relationships.
- Using people in your own life who have influenced you, talk about role models.
- Discuss the way the internet has influenced our world in a positive or negative way.
- Using your own work and personal experience, discuss the characteristics of an effective leader.
- Using your own experience and ideas, discuss the work ethic of your generation.

Be sure to identify the rhetorical mode that you are using for each of the three essays. Each essay should include a title, introduction with thesis statement, body paragraphs with clear topic sentences and information, and a conclusion. Remember to revise and edit your paper. These essays should be expository, personal essays that explain your subject using your own ideas (based on personal experiences, acquired knowledge, and observations). You should not research the essay topic or use information borrowed from sources (Library, Internet, books, or newspapers) in your essay. Submit all three essays to your instructor.

**Assignment Type:** Discussion Board **Deliverable Length:** 1-2 pages  
**Points Possible:** 60

During unit three you will be composing a research paper that makes an argument. The research topic should be a controversial, arguable issue (Chapter 13, pp. 168-170). To help you get started on this assignment, select one of the following controversial topics and choose one of the following articles to review in support of an argument that you would like to write:

**Topic: Abstinence Only Education**

Article #1: Maher, B. E. Abstinence is the best message for teens. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Goff, S. Advocates of abstinence education are hypocrites. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Covenant Marriage**

Article #1: Crouch, J. Covenant marriage would benefit the family. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Applewhite, A. Covenant marriage would not benefit the family. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Education**

Article #1: Kimball, R. An emphasis on diversity has harmed education. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Bracey, G. The quality of public education has not declined. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Music File Sharing**

Article #1: Bainwol, M. The music industry's lawsuits against online music sharers are justified. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Card, O. S. The harms of online music sharing are exaggerated. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Animal-to-Human Transplants**

Article #1: Fung, J. J. Animal to human transplants could save lives. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Berger, A., & Lamont G. Animal to human transplants are dangerous. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Indecency on the Internet**

Article #1: American Civil Liberties Union. Censoring indecent material on the Internet violates free speech. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Jenkins, H. W. Censorship of pornography may be justified. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Anonymity on the Internet**

Article #1: Wallace, J. D. Individuals' ability to communicate anonymously via the Internet is threatened. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Davenport, D. Individuals should not be allowed to communicate anonymously via the Internet. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Terrorism/Anti-Terrorism**

Article #1: Kalet, H. Antiterrorism legislation threatens civil liberties. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Chomsky, N. America is a serious terrorist threat. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Airline Safety**

Article #1: Lott, J. Airline pilots should be armed. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Will, G. Airline pilots should not be armed. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

**Topic: Church and State**

Article #1: Wolfe, A. Church and state should be separate. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Article #2: Bonta, S. Church and state should not be separate. Retrieved March 10, 2006, from Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center database.

Visit the Library and find the article you have selected in the **Opposing Viewpoints** database.

Let us know what you learned by summarizing or paraphrasing the article. According to your text, "A summary condenses original material, presenting its core ideas in your own words...To paraphrase is to restate material in your own words without attempting to condense it. Unlike a summary, a paraphrase allows you to present an essentially complete version of the original material" (p. 349, 351; p. 23-24--Writing a Summary).

Remember that summary and paraphrase are a reflection of the information in the article, not your views or opinions on the subject or information. The summary paragraph should state the author's name and title of the article being summarized in the first sentence. It should briefly (three to five sentences), but concisely restate the author's main viewpoint (thesis), major supporting reasons, and conclusion.

After writing your brief summary of the article, include a response paragraph (three to five sentences) in which you agree or disagree with the author's main viewpoint (thesis) or any major supporting reasons.

See the [AIU Library Guide to Database Research](#) for helpful information on how to conduct research using the Library.

Then, using APA in-text citation formatting requirements, quote several different ideas from the article that you would like to use in your research paper. Remember: you need to introduce the quotation and reference it, not just place quotation marks around lines you like. For instance, if an article from 2002 on page 3 by Dr. John Doe included the fact that 80 percent of dogs love to play fetch, instead of using "Playing fetch is enjoyed by 80 percent of dogs," your paper would reference the material. John Doe (2002) declares, "Playing fetch is enjoyed by 80 percent of dogs" (p. 3). Your quotations should not be included in your summary or paraphrase. Instead, they should be included separately after your summary or paraphrase. (See pp. 396-404 regarding APA in-text citation, using direct quotes, and avoiding plagiarism.) Include an APA reference citation for the article you selected from the Library databases (see APA under Library Features or pp. 390-391 for citing library databases such as *Opposing Viewpoints* or *Academic Search Premier*.)

**Post your summary or paraphrase and your quotations to the discussion board. Attach a copy of your article to your DB posting. Comment on other postings. You will be graded on the quality of your postings.**

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### UNIT 3

**Assignment Type:** Individual Project **Deliverable Length:** 1000 word paper, outline, and References list  
**Points Possible:** 100

**Deliverable Length:** 1000 word research paper, outline, and References list

This week you will begin writing a 1000-word research paper (essay with sources). This essay will use the Argument rhetorical mode (Chapter 13). According to the text, an argument "is a paper grounded on logical, structured evidence, that attempts to convince the reader to accept an opinion, take some action, or do both. Argument is also a process during which you explore an issue fully, considering different perspectives, assumptions, reasons, and evidence to reach your own informed opinion" (p. 168).

For this assignment, you may continue to use your topic from the Unit Two DB as a starting point for this assignment, or you may choose another topic of interest to you that may be developed into an argument essay. Continue to research your controversial issue using the *Opposing Viewpoints* and *Academic Search Premier* databases in the Library. Find appropriate articles to support your position. No fewer than five Library database resources must be used to complete the assignment.

For this unit you will submit the following to your instructor:

- A thesis statement about your subject (p. 191)
- A working outline (p. 354-57, 375)
- A complete draft of your research paper in APA format including in-text citations
- A References list in APA format with no fewer than five sources from the Library *Academic Search Premier* and *Opposing Viewpoints* databases (Internet resources should not be used for this assignment).

See the [AIU Library Guide to Database Research](#) for helpful information on how to conduct research using the Library.

For help with citations and documentation, the Resources section of this unit contains several links to websites containing information on how to properly cite and document sources, including the following:

- APA Guide--[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_apa.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html)
- Avoiding Plagiarism--[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r\\_plagiar.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html)
- Internet Detective--<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/detective/>
- For additional information and resources on APA, visit the APA section of the Library available under "Library Features."

Note: In unit four, you will be organized into small groups. For your group assignment, you will evaluate another student's research paper rough draft in your small group. Your draft will also be evaluated. During the last unit of the class you will be asked to finalize your own paper based upon the feedback you receive from your instructor and peers, and using the decisions you've made regarding content, organization, spelling, and grammar as part of your own revising and editing.

Submit your thesis statement, outline, research paper rough draft, and References list to your Submitted Assignments Folder. Also submit a copy to Small Group Files for the next unit's group project.

**Assignment Type:** Discussion Board **Deliverable Length:** 3-6 Paragraphs  
**Points Possible:** 60

Using Chapter 13 from the Strategies textbook, read about at least one of the following logical fallacies:

- Circular Argument (also called Circular Reasoning)
- Personal Attack (also called Argumentum ad Hominem)
- Hasty Generalization (also called Dicto Simpliciter)
- Either/Or Fallacy (also called False Dilemma)
- Non Sequitur
- Appeal to the Crowd (also called Argumentum ad Populum or Appeal to Popularity)

Post an example of an argument that you have heard or read in the past which demonstrates one of these logical fallacies and identify which logical fallacy it demonstrates. Explain how you would counter this argument with correct logic.

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## UNIT 4

**Assignment Type:** Group Project **Deliverable Length:** will vary  
**Points Possible:** 150

Submit the draft of the research paper you submitted to your instructor last week to your small group drop box and locate your assigned paper to critique.

Critique the paper of a group member by completing all of the items on the [Peer Evaluation Form](#). Please be sure that all members of your group have been critiqued.

Answer all questions on the Peer Evaluation Form in a Word document. Follow the directions on the Peer Evaluation Form for editing your group member's paper.

**Discuss** the exchange of papers and ideas with your group in the **Small Group Discussion Board**; you will be graded on your participation in this discussion. **Submit** all of the completed peer review materials (the completed peer review sheet and your edited copy of your partner's paper). Please be sure to add your file for your final peer review (both parts) to both your **Small Group** and your **submitted assignments**.

**Each student must submit the completed Peer Evaluation Form and peer's edited research paper.**

**Assignment Type:** Discussion Board **Deliverable Length:** 2-3 paragraphs  
**Points Possible:** 60

How is writing a research paper (essay with sources) different from the other writing assignments you have completed so far?

Remember to compare how writing a research paper is different than the other writing assignments you have completed for this course.

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## UNIT 5

**Assignment Type:** Individual Project **Deliverable Length:** 1000 words  
**Points Possible:** 200

Using all of the resources for the class, suggestions from your peers, comments from your instructor, and the decisions you've made regarding content, organization, spelling, and grammar as part of your own revising and editing, create a final draft of your research paper. Be sure to check the paper, in-text citations, and the References list to ensure that they conform to the requirements of APA formatting. The following resources may be useful to you in completing this assignment:

- **APA Guide**--<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>
- **Avoiding Plagiarism**-- [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r\\_plagiar.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html)
- **Internet Detective**--<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/detective/>
- For additional information and resources on APA, visit the APA section of the Library, available under "Library Features."

**NOTE:** As the author of the research paper, you are responsible for the quality of your final draft.

Submit your revised and edited research paper and References list to your instructor.

**Assignment Type:** Discussion Board **Deliverable Length:** 2-3 paragraphs  
**Points Possible:** 60

*Before you can complete this exercise, you must complete the activity in the Unit 5 presentation. Go to Course Materials, Unit 5, View Unit 5, Activity, 3rd Screen.*

### **Plagiarism Issue**

Although you have made your decision, you continue to have nagging doubts about that decision. Did you, in fact, do the right thing? How do you know? Was there some other way to handle the situation? What are your ethical responsibilities as a peer reviewer?