ENC 1101 Assignment #4:
Argument Essay (25%)
Two copies due for rough draft workshop: Mon. 11/22 or Tues. 11/23
Final drafts due: Wed. 12/1 or Thurs. 12/2

“The aim of argument, or of discussion, should not be victory, but progress.”
--Joseph Joubert

Objectives:
• Analyze research to form a position
• Determine if more research is necessary
• Conduct more research if necessary
• Compose a persuasive essay on your position
• Compose a workable solution

Description:
A **persuasive essay** argues a position on your research question and offers a workable solution to the problem your issue presents.

- Make sure your essay:
  - Is 4-5 pages long
  - Has a first page which identifies your rhetorical context and your thesis statement
  - Is in MLA format (in-text citations, Works Cited page, margins, etc.)
  - Uses a minimum of four secondary sources
  - Smoothly integrates quotations, paraphrases, and summaries
  - Has a claim that is stated clearly in a thesis statement
  - Has reasons which logically support your claim
  - Is based on assumptions that your target audience will likely accept
  - Includes evidence (facts, examples, numbers, authorities’ statements) that supports your reasons
  - Addresses possible rebuttals by opposing views
  - Argues for a workable *first step* towards solving the problem that your issue presents (e.g., spreading awareness through PSA’s, pushing for a law or policy change, your target audience doing something or changing their thinking)

- What to turn in with your final draft of your essay:
  - A mailing envelope or slim folder that contains all your paperwork
  - Your sources (a copy of the title page if a book, movie, etc.)
  - Your final draft
  - This assignment sheet and grading rubric
  - **Note:** If you would like me to return your essay to you this semester, please supply a stamped and self-addressed mailing envelope. After I am finished grading I will return the essay and grading rubric to you through the mail. If you don’t supply a stamped, self-addressed envelope you may pick up your graded essay from my office next semester.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Content/Organization</th>
<th>Diction</th>
<th>Grammar/mechanics</th>
<th>Research and Documentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>23-25/25</td>
<td>Specific, opinionated thesis; persuasive explanation of support; specific, relevant support to thesis; consistent focus and graceful transitions</td>
<td>Compelling word choice; demonstrates insightful use of figurative language; objective, formal voice predominates; uses more informal language if/when appropriate</td>
<td>Demonstrates mastery of grammar, creating compelling prose; few to no errors; Sentences are carefully formed and positioned with attention to emphasis, rhythm and pace to engage the reader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>20-22/25</td>
<td>Clear, opinionated thesis; persuasive explanation of support; logical progression of ideas; mostly specific and relevant support; smooth transitions</td>
<td>Specific, fresh word choice; uses metaphor and/or analogy; objective, formal voice predominates</td>
<td>Demonstrates understanding of most grammar; spell check errors remain; Sentences show variety in length, pattern, and rhythm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>18-19/25</td>
<td>Conventional, opinionated thesis; sometimes unclear explanation of support; some specific support; adequate transitions</td>
<td>Conventional word choice; mostly formal voice; occasional incorrect use of words</td>
<td>Occasional errors in sentence structure, verb agreement, pronoun reference, spelling and punctuation; Sentences show some variation in pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited</td>
<td>15-17/20</td>
<td>Thesis unclear and/or not opinionated; unclear support; inconsistent organization of analysis; transitions often do not connect ideas; does not meet page count</td>
<td>Vague, ordinary, and/or incorrect word choice with clichés and/or wordiness; informal or pretentious voice prominent</td>
<td>Frequent errors in sentence structure, verb agreement, pronoun reference, spelling and punctuation; Simple sentences are frequent with occasional fused sentences and fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flawed</td>
<td>0-14/20</td>
<td>No identifiable thesis; no meaningful discussion of issue; no control of organization and/or transitions; doesn’t meet page count</td>
<td>Word choice doesn’t fit audience or purpose; informal voice and/or wordiness predominates</td>
<td>Continuous errors in sentence structure, verb agreement, pronoun reference, spelling and punctuation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>