

ESSAY 2: ARGUING THE PAST

Final Draft: 1000 words

Due: Thurs, 2/16

In our class discussions about the “Star Spangled Banner” and the articles in your book, we focused on how the past has influenced and informed the present and vice versa. For your first draft, you considered how a song argues about the past, the focus of that argument and the connections made between the past and the present. In your final draft, you need to focus your argument using supporting evidence (but no outside research). You also need to present your ideas in a cohesive and logical writing. To help with that, today we discussed creating an arguable thesis statement, constructing topic sentences and creating appropriate paragraph divisions. For this second essay, we have some important goals to fulfill, including:

- creating an argument
- supporting that argument with allusions, examples, appeals, etc.; and
- linking the argument throughout the essay using topic sentences

Revising

You received comments from your peer review partner today and will receive comments from me (via email) over the weekend. Consider these comments as you are revising your argument. Remember that 1000 words is not a very much space to prove your point. You must be succinct and effective with your argument in order to sway the opinion of your reader.

Turnitin.com

This essay also needs to be submitted to Turnitin.com before class on Thursday, 2/16. (If you need the code, please email me. Once you register, you no longer need the code to log-in.)

Remember these basic requirements:

- Turn in the first draft with peer comments as well as Writing Exercise 3;
- Use an interesting title;
- Type this essay in 12pt font, double-spaced with one inch margins;
- Type your name, the date, your section number and Essay 4 at the top left-hand corner;
- Type your name and page number on every page;
- Print the final draft on one side only;
- Staple your final draft;
- Proofread everything before you bring it to class.

PLEASE NOTE:

If a final draft is turned in without a) Writing Exercise 3 and b) the peer review comments on the first draft, your final essay grade will be penalized a full letter grade for every day that these documents are late. (See the Greensheet for further explanation.)