Unit 5: Research Paper Guidelines

TOPIC: Either an extension of your Unit 4: Argument Paper, or a new topic. New topics must be discussed and cleared with Instructor Fitzgerald A.S.A.P. *Note: If you’re sticking with the topic of your Unit 4: Argument Paper, you need to make sure that it is researchable/workable as a research paper topic; talk to Instructor Fitzgerald if you're not sure. Also note that if you keep the original (Unit 4) topic, you need to provide pertinent NEW information—in other words, you are not permitted to simply hand in the same paper twice. The research sources should strengthen your argument, and shed new light on your subject.

FORMAT and REQUIREMENTS:

4 - 6 pages in length. *Note: Your paper should not be shorter than four (4) full pages, and should not exceed six (6) pages.

Titled

Appropriate heading and pages numbered

MLA documentation style

Works Cited page

In-text citations throughout whenever there is quoted material

Double-spaced

Stapled

Include at least two quotations in the paper

Keep all preparation, including printed copies of all online materials

Your topic CANNOT be changed without your instructor’s permission. Paper topics that have not been discussed and cleared by Instructor Fitzgerald WILL BE GIVEN A GRADE OF F.

3 SOURCES Minimum: Your research paper must have a minimum of three (3) sources. Include reliable journals from library databases. You may look at Wikipedia for your own information and to generate ideas, but Wikipedia cannot be used as a source.
in your paper. You may also use a documentary film as support for your paper, and that may substitute for one (1) article.

Please note: This project requires that you take initiative, and use the excellent resources you’ve been given. While Instructor Fitzgerald is happy to help you while you work on your paper, you need to FIRST look to your handouts before asking for help. The resources provided to you in our library session show you very clearly how to put together a Works Cited page, and how to cite within the text (body) of your paper. Looking at the examples provided in the handouts is the most efficient way to learn how to cite sources. Practice makes perfect.

Finally: Be creative, be thoughtful, be engaged. This project will be as interesting or as dull as you make it. The more you care about the topic you’ve chosen, the more interesting it will be to research and write about.

Ask questions in class if you feel lost about a particular aspect of this project!