**Expository Research Paper:**

**Overall:** Now is the time you finally get to research and write your own explanatory paper.The paper will be at least 3 pages long of text and will showcase your knowledge of researching and documentation.

* Include a separate Works Cited page
* Follow the MLA format
* The purpose of this explanatory synthesis is to explain and connect different ideas about your main topic. It is not a place for your opinion.

**Paper Requirements: 3-4 page** paper explaining a topic that is of importance to you. The paper must be narrow enough in scope to be discussed in the required length.

**You are required to included:**

* **Statistics**: Numbers that illustrate important points. Name studies you provide statistics for.
* **Quotes** from experts: Give your experts some credentials and then use “ “ to quote important points that you can’t summarize or paraphrase.
* Please print out your three articles for class. All articles must be used in the text of your paper if contained on the Works Cited page.

**Introduction:**

* Try one of the methods we discussed from the book. This is your chance to really engage the reader. Read/ use tips from Chapt. 29-30.

**Thesis**:

* Make sure the thesis focuses on a specific idea that separates your paper from others written on the same subject. Make sure the focus is narrow enough.
* The thesis should be the last sentence in the first paragraph.
* Should include three main points, which make up the body of your paper.

**The Research:**

* Be sure to include at least 3 “Expert” sources. Authors should have credentials and be experts in the field.
* Can you summarize what is in each article? Make sure you understand the material you are putting in your paper.
* The information from each article should be interwoven in the text. The paper should not have just one source per main point. Several experts can be used in the same paragraph.
* What is the relationship between the sources? Do the different sources compliment one another?

**How to use research effectively:**

* Use quotes sparingly—only if you can’t say it better.
* When quoting—use only the important parts.
* Identify the expert before the quote.
* Use specific examples to back up your point.
* Use statistics/facts instead of generalities.
* Paraphrase: State the ideas in your own words but give credit to experts either by name in the sentence or at the end of the sentence in ( ) .
* Do not end paragraph with a quote. Explain the quote’s importance to the thesis. That is where your understanding of the subject matter comes into to play.
* MLA Format: Refer to the Learning Center Handout when citing within the text and on the works cited page. Anything on the Works Cited page should be referenced in the text.

**Random Notes:**

* No *You* anywhere in the paper
* No *I* or *we* except in the introduction/conclusion