

## Week 5: The Basic Argument Essay

### Argument Essay

It's time now to start writing essay. (YAY, right?) We'll start with the basic persuasive essay, or as we're calling it here, the "Basic Argument Essay." You will draw on the material we have covered so far in the course as you work on this essay. Of particular importance are chapters 4 and 5, which discuss the basics of argumentation. Chapter 9, your reading this week, will discuss this essay in more detail, along with providing several other important tools:

1. A basic argument essay checklist (pg. 64)
2. The basic organizational pattern (pg. 66)
3. **THE ASSIGNMENT ITSELF** (pg. 66)
4. A sample essay for your review (pgs. 69 – 72)

We will write this essay over the span of two weeks. This week your job is to read the chapter, select a topic, write a rough draft, and post that draft to the Basic Argument Essay Rough Draft Discussion Forum.

Next week your job will be to provide peer reviews for your classmates' essays as well as prepare your own final draft.

### READING

#### Chapter 9 in *The Super Compact Guide*

#### THE BASIC ARGUMENT DISCUSSION FORUM

Once you've completed the reading, go to the Basic Argument Discussion Forum link. Review my opening question and respond, and then respond to at least TWO of your classmates throughout the week.

#### THE BASIC ARGUMENT ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT FORUM

By midnight Sunday night, post the rough draft of your Basic Argument Essay to the Basic Argument Essay Rough Draft Forum. Next week you will return to this forum to download at least THREE of your classmates' drafts to review. You will post those peer reviews in the Week 6 Basic Argument Essay Peer Review Forum, which will be available next week.

#### **NOTE: THE BASIC ARGUMENT ESSAY ASSIGNMENT**

Note that general instructions for this essay can be found on pages 66 and 67 in chapter 9 of the text. The instructions include this item:

1. **Select a topic of interest to you. *The topic must be debatable...***

Note that **YOUR TOPIC MUST ALSO BE RELATED TO YOUR CAREER FIELD**. If you are already working in the field of your course of study, feel free to select a topic from your workplace. If you are not yet working in the field, select a topic related to your field. You have probably already taken classes within the field, or you are currently enrolled in such classes. What topic has been discussed in these classes that was of particular interest to you? Make this essay a part of your current field of study.