

You began ENG 111 by analyzing your own personal experiences with rhetoric, and you have just finished comparing the rhetorical choices of others. Now, you'll be entering the conversations surrounding a current public issue by formulating your own public argument proposal in the form of a research paper. For the purposes of this assignment, I want you to select a topic that has been framed in some way by pop culture or satire. You can talk about something *The Daily Show* covered, or a topic *The Onion* has taken a few swings at. If you wanted to talk about something that involved a tabloid explosion that is also acceptable, but remember that Tiger Woods isn't a topic, he's a person at the center of various controversies (sex addiction, infidelity, and so forth). Your topic needs to be something important enough that it captured our attention outside of traditional news sources. (Please note that you are more than welcome to keep your topic from Inquiry Two, as long as it has been covered by pop culture.)

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### **PART A**

Part A of Inquiry Three will have you craft an annotated bibliography via the forum tool on Niihka. You will need at least 10 sources, one per entry, in correct MLA format. You will need four news sources, four scholarly sources, and two "pop culture" sources, such as those noted above. Remember that not all of your sources will agree with one another.

In each blog post, you'll need to do the following:

1. Summarize the source briefly—what is the source, where did it come from (journal, book, etc), what are its main points?
  2. Explain any shortcomings, weaknesses, or biases of the source, and talk about how they will affect your paper.
  3. Articulate the ways the source agrees or disagrees with the sources about which you have already written. You don't need to compare #10 to each of #1 through #9, but you should mention ones that agree or disagree strongly.
  4. Discuss how you could use the source in your paper. What is its rhetorical purpose?
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### **PART B**

Part B of Inquiry Three will be your proposal portion. You will need to actively work to persuade your audience to accept your argument and your proposed solutions—don't simply inform your audience about the topic of your argument. You will use at least five of the sources you reviewed on your blog: Two news, two scholarly, and one pop culture.

A good paper will engage in the following rhetorical moves:

- Analysis of your topic from multiple perspectives.
  - Background based on scholarly research.
  - Discussion of how the news is covering your topic; discussion of how pop culture is covering it.
  - Comparative rhetorics: How does the scholarly approach differ from the news approach differ from the pop culture approach?
  - A strong conclusion stating a well-supported stance on the topic.
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Papers must be at least 1,000 words, submitted in MLA-formatted documents of the file types listed on the syllabus. All papers must be accompanied by a reflective memo of at least 250 words.