

ENGLISH 304C

Final Project Description

Your final project for English 304c should be a representation of the work you are doing in this class—learning about composition theory and coming to a new understanding of “good” writing. More specifically, you will be responsible for completing a research paper (including no fewer than 10 sources) that explores some issue that was raised in this class that is of interest to you. (Remember: All good writing comes from good questions, so think back to issues raised in our readings or class discussions about which you are uncertain. That may be a good starting point.)

Successful final projects will:

- Raise a question about composition that is interesting and relevant to the writer.
- Identify and explore the different ways scholars in the field have tried to answer that question.
- Explain the writer’s informed point of view regarding the issue and whether (and why) the writer agrees or disagrees with the scholarly positions on the issue.
- Utilize the strategies for good writing discussed in class, including invention, organization, style, grammar, and revision.
- Incorporate and correctly cite no fewer than 10 outside sources. A list of resources that focus on composition issues can be found on the course website’s home page: <http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~aferdina/304c>.
- Follow MLA guidelines (which are outlined on Purdue’s Online Writing Lab at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html).

FINAL PROJECT DUE DATES

- ✓ Tuesday, March 28: Paper Proposal due
- ✓ Thursday, April 6: Annotated Bibliography due
- ✓ Thursday, April 13: First draft of final project due—Writing Workshops
- ✓ Tuesday, May 2: Final draft of project due by 4 p.m. to Amy via e-mail (aferdina@purdue.edu)

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Proposal Assignment Description

What is a proposal?

A project proposal requires you to establish a plan for the project you intend to produce. This proposal assignment will offer you a chance to start thinking about and get feedback on your semester project before the deadline is upon you.

What should the proposal include?

- **Question Explanation** Identify the question you are exploring and why it is important to you. Indicate some of the important events or issues you expect to discuss and how they will help you work toward an answer to your question.
- **Audience Analysis** Consider who your audience is. Why did you choose this group to focus on? What are specific ways you intend to reach this audience? What are some potential problems you might encounter in convincing your audience to agree with your argument?
- **Research Plan** Identify resources available to you that will provide background information and/or arguments for your final project. You should consider both electronic and print sources, as well as other alternative forms of research you can do (e.g., photo documentation, surveys, etc.)

Proposal Requirements

Your proposal should be typed, double-spaced, and printed.

The proposal is worth **50 points**, and it is due at the beginning of class on **Tuesday, March 28**. *Late proposals will not be accepted.*