

ENGLISH 200

RESEARCH PAPER II

Guidelines

There are two options for how to complete Research Paper 2, which is the second written assignment for this semester.

1. Develop paper 1 into paper 2:

This would most of the time mean a) addressing technical problems with paper 1 such as grammar, syntax, and formatting. b) Addressing style issues. Attempting a more academic style and cleaning up colloquial vocabulary. This does not mean that you should include a lot of fancy words and terminology, but rather you should keep your own “voice” in the paper while emulating a professional, academic style. This will serve to emphasize an increased level of proficiency when it comes to participating in literary discourse, and will enhance your authority as a literary writer.

Other ways of developing paper 1 are to conduct further research to solidify your own arguments, and incorporate this research in your paper. This may entail modifying your thesis statement to accommodate a “wider” grasp of the material dealt with.

Methods for development may also include:

- Addressing grammar and syntax issues
- Adjust and/or expand the thesis statement.
- Correcting formatting issues (MLA or APA style)
- Attempting a more professional and academic style and tone of voice, as well as a more polished final product.
- Filling in “research gaps”
- Clarifying arguments and ideas presented in Paper 1

Most of the time, the above developments lead to a slightly longer paper, and I therefore expect Paper 2 to be somewhat longer (8-11 p double spaced, Times New Roman 12). Even if you did well on Paper 1 there will be room for expansion. Paper 2 is an opportunity to develop (not only improve) the ideas and insights initiated in Paper 1.

2. Write a completely new paper for writing assignment 2:

If you are tired of the subject matter you chose for Paper 1 you have the option of writing a new, discreet paper. Proceed as you would for Paper 1, and refer to Paper 1 guidelines (previous handout) for suggested topics, scope, and formatting. Also, check general comments on Paper I for pointers about academic style and developing a professional, academic “voice.”

Formatting:

The same principles apply as to Paper I. Use MLA style (or comparable). basic MLA style sheet is incorporated. A great source for MLA assistance is available at:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/PDFs/r_mla.pdf

Scope: 8-11 pages, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 points. **Paper 2 is due May 1, 11:55 PM by email to cajsa.baldini@asu.edu**