

Journal 9 - LAST JOURNAL - Due Monday April 3  
Research Paper Set-up

This Journal is a little different from all the previous journals because it is focused purely on setting you up to have a great research paper. By this point in the semester, you should already know how to write a thesis, explicative paragraphs, arguments that follow one point, and a conclusion. Now, you need to be able to write about what someone else thinks and why you agree or disagree.

Directions:

**Choose 2 articles from the articles that we discussed in class that you want to write about in your paper. CAUTION: Pick articles that you think will actually go together well. There needs to be some sort of commonality between the two.**

**Write:**

Page 1 - **Write 1 paragraph** that summarizes the argument of article #1. This paragraph should include just an overview (this means I'm actually asking you to summarize!!!!) of the paper. Be careful, though. I want you to only give me the important parts. Write it in no more than 9 sentences (5-7 is best). I want this to be all you putting the ideas into words, so NO quoting is encouraged.

**Write 1 paragraph** that responds to the paper. Tell me what you think about it. You do not have to point to anything. Just tell me what you think and what you want to argue about it. (5-7 sentences

Page 2: Repeat paragraphs 1 & 2 but focusing on article #2 this time.

Page 3: What idea do you have for your paper #2? What do you want your thesis to be? How are you going to argue it? Again, I am not going to be focusing on whether you are explicating or not. I want to see you thinking through what you want your paper to be about.

Grading:

A - Thoughtful engagement of the articles. You understand the theses and arguments. You have thought about the book and the articles. Your ideas about your thesis are clearly being formed.

B - Thoughtful engagement with the articles, but unclear understanding of the theses and arguments. You have thought about the book and articles, but your ideas/thesis is unclear and vaguely explained.

C - Engaged the articles on a purely cursory level. Brief summary of statements, but not of overall argument or arguments. You have just put down ideas, but there is no correlation or beginning thesis.

D - You have barely looked at the article. You have no idea what the arguments are. You have not considered your paper at all, much less read the book.

