

ESSAY 1:

ARTICULATING & EVALUATING HOW AN ARGUMENT PERSUADES A SPECIFIC AUDIENCE

Points Breakdown: Outline=20; Peer Review=20; Writing Meditation=20; Final Draft=120.

Outline Due: Thursday, 2/2 (refer to “Guide to Formal Outlining” on BB for instructions).

First Rough Draft Due: Tuesday, 2/7 (must reach at least 3 pages).

Second Rough Draft Due: Thursday, 2/9 (must be revised and reach at least 3 pages).

Final Draft Due: Thursday, 2/16 (submit entire writing process portfolio).

Learning Outcome #1:

Discern elements of context embedded in arguments—the clues that show what the argument is responding to, both in the sense of what has come before it and that it is written for an audience in a particular time and place; examine a writer’s language in relation to audience, context, and community.

Prompt:

In your analysis of Johann Hari’s “The Likely Cause of Addiction Has Been Discovered, and It Is Not What You Think,” you are expected to:

- Introduce Hari and his article, including his purpose, audience, and argument.
- Explain *your* project for the paper, using metadiscourse.
- Discuss the rhetorical situation of the article, paying particular attention to Hari’s intended audience and emphasizing the context in which Hari’s argument is responding.
- Identify Hari’s major claims, explaining how they relate to his overall argument.
- Describe Hari’s chosen methods of persuasion, discussing the rhetorical appeals and strategies employed in his supporting evidence.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Hari’s rhetorical moves in persuading his intended audience in a particular context.
- Explore the significance of your analysis.
- Use an effective structure that carefully guides your reader from one idea to the next, thoroughly editing your writing so it is comprehensible and appropriate for an academic audience.

Expectations:

- 6 pages
- Printed and stapled
- Double-spaced
- Standard (1-inch) margins
- 12 point, Times New Roman font
- MLA Works Cited page
- Use specific quotes and lines of evidence. When doing so, be sure to give credit where credit is due, following MLA in-text citation formatting. *Example: In her article, Pincock asserts, “_____” (5).*

Writing Help:

If you have any questions, you are welcome to send me an email or stop by my office during my designated hours. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to attend an optional 15-minute conference with me to go over your rough draft (I will pass around a sign-up sheet). Furthermore, you may make appointments at the SDSU Writing Center for additional assistance, and Purdue OWL is an excellent reference for MLA formatting and academic writing.

UNIT 1 SCHEDULE

Please note that the following schedule is approximate, since dates and topics may shift as the semester continues. I will always inform you ahead of time of any changes. Please check Blackboard often for updated schedule information.

All reading and writing assignments are due on the date under which they are listed. **Always bring a hard copy of the texts up for discussion**, and remember **all writing assignments must be typed**.

WEEK 2

TH, 1/26:

Due: Read Johann Hari's "The Likely Cause of Addiction Has Been Discovered, and It Is Not What You Think"; BEGIN UNIT 1; Review Essay 1 prompt; Discuss Hari's text.

WEEK 3

T, 1/31:

Discuss Hari's text.

TH, 2/2:

Due: Essay 1 outline; Outline workshop; Rhetorical connections activity.

WEEK 4

T, 2/7:

Due: Essay 1 first rough draft; Peer review workshop.

TH, 2/9:

Due: Essay 1 second rough draft; Writing meditation workshop.

WEEK 5

T, 2/14:

NO CLASS: Conferences on 2/14 & 2/15 (these are optional but highly beneficial; a sign-up sheet will be passed around in class).

TH, 2/16:

Due: Essay 1 final portfolio; BEGIN UNIT 2.