

RWS 200: Paper #4

Joining the Conversation

Final Paper Proposal Due: April 18 Posted to your blog

Peer Review: April 27

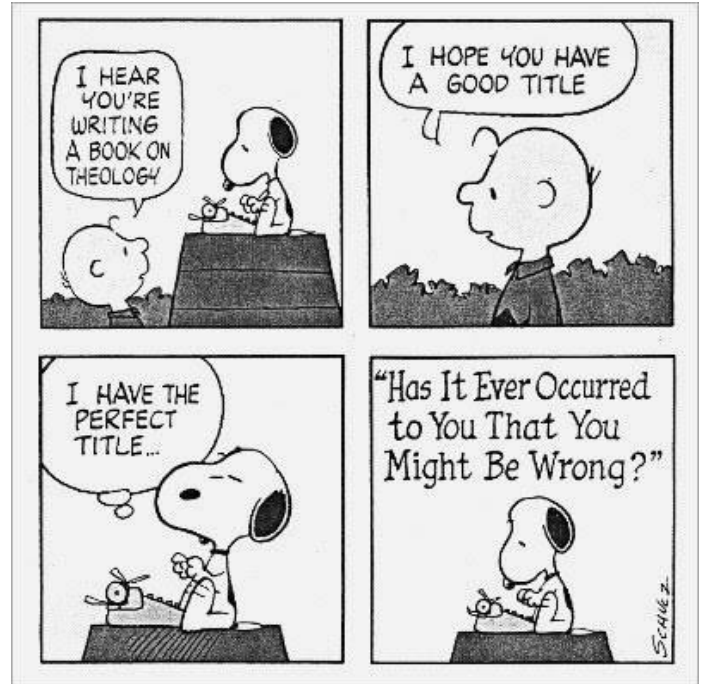
Final Paper Due: May 4

Length: 1350-1600 Words

It's time to "join the conversation!"

In this final paper, you will be asked to make your own argument about a topic of your choosing. The name of your paper is: "Everything You Think You Know About _____ Is Wrong."

In order to write this paper, you will need to first follow a few steps:



Determining Your Rhetorical Context

1. First, you will need to determine **the time that your work is published**. You can choose anytime you'd like: today would certainly be fine. The historical past is also great. You could even choose the distant future.
2. Next, you need to determine **who your audience is**. Again, this is up to *you*. The simple choice is to choose your college peers. You could also choose an academic advising committee. You can also be creative, perhaps you want to address "The Flat Earth Society." That's fine, too.
3. Once you have determined the time and audience for your piece, you need to **identify something that group believes which you think is totally wrong**. For instance, if you identified the Flat Earth Society, you title your paper, "Everything You Think You Know About the Shape of the Earth Is Wrong." If you chose a contemporary group of your college peers, your title might be "Everything You Think You Know About Managing Your School Life Is Wrong."
4. No matter which time, audience, and topic you choose, your argument will be written. **Choose a written format** that you think your intended audience would likely to read. If you chose your college peers, you could simply choose an academic paper, or maybe it's an editorial in *The Daily Aztec*. If you chose The Flat Earth Society, you could choose their newsletter.

5. Choose **two rhetorical strategies** that you will use – that you think will really work on your intended audience!

Be creative as you want to be! Just make sure you will be able to construct a persuasive argument for your audience.

Once you have decided on the information above, put it into a proposal like the one below. In addition to the Rhetorical Context information, explain why you want to do this proposal in 1-2 sentences. Here's an example you can use:

I am going to write a letter to The Flat Earth Society titled, "Everything You Know About the Shape of the Earth is Wrong." My letter will be written in 2017 and will prove to the society's members that their conviction that our planet is flat and not round, is misguided, not based on science, and a product of ignorance and superstition.

My audience will be contemporary members of The Flat Earth Society, and I am going to utilize the rhetorical strategies of prolepsis and cause and effect analysis. I think prolepsis will be effective to show how their counterarguments are based on illogical premises as well as cause and effect because it will persuasively show, scientifically, that we would not have days or nights unless we were a round planet revolving around the sun.

I chose this topic because I find it inconceivable that people can still believe the Earth is flat in 2017!

Post this as "My Final Paper Proposal" to your blog on 4/18. I'll let you know if I have any questions.

How you structure your final paper is up to you. Here's what it needs to include:

- An easy-to-find thesis statement
- 1350-1600 Words
- An effective & persuasive argument tailored to the audience you chose
- Use of at least (2) Rhetorical Strategies
- Support from at least (3) outside sources *(Use sources that your intended audience is likely to trust!)*
- A Works Cited list



Your final paper is due posted to your blog on the last day of class, May 4.

If you want feedback on your paper, indicate this at the end of your paper. I will be happy to e-mail you feedback. Otherwise, you'll just get a grade.

E-mail me, or stop by office hours, if you have questions: scottmbruner@gmail.com.