

Your Name
Ms. Gondringer
Advanced Composition
6 December 2016

Argumentative Research Proposal

Research Question: What is the main question that will drive your research?

Subject and Background: What is the subject of your paper? What is your research about? What is your subject about?

Tentative Title: What are you considering as the title for your paper? (This will most likely change as you develop your research.)

Rationale: What is your personal attachment to this topic? Why are you passionate about it? (If your answer is, “I’m not passionate about my topic,” you will need to consider a different topic.)

Tentative Thesis: Based on your personal assumptions and your current research, what are you considering for a thesis statement? This will most likely change as well.

Methodology: This is where you discuss the approach you’re going to take to compiling all your evidence and research. Ideas for this section include, but are not limited to, defining uncommon terms, providing personal experiences, discussing the opposing side, doing a case study...

Discuss your opposing side: Every good argument has two sides that can be backed by research. This is what distinguishes your argumentative paper from a research paper. Discuss your opposing side here. There may be a few different opposing sides; you only have to discuss one here. Why is it an opposing side? How does this opposing side oppose of your stand?

Review of References: Here you will list two or three scholarly sources that you have found on your subject. The reason I’m asking for two or three sources is so you can make sure you are able to find enough scholarly sources for your entire paper. If you are unable to find two or three scholarly sources in one week, you will never be able to find enough research for your paper. As you put together your list of scholarly sources, you need format them like I did below:

1. Start with the APA format citation. You can use Citation Machine to help you.
2. Discuss the author and his/her credibility. Why should we listen to what they have to say about your subject?
3. Explain how you could potentially use the information in your paper.
4. Explain how you know this is a scholarly source.

Levitin, D. J. (2006). *This is Your Brain on Music: The Science of a Human Obsession*. New York, NY: Dutton. This is a fantastic novel written by Daniel Levitin, a neuroscientist and musician, who researches music's effect on the brain. His novel includes many charts and graphs that explain exactly how the brain changes. He also includes a comprehensive list of resources at the end of the novel. I have found quite a bit of beneficial information thus far in this novel and I foresee it being extremely beneficial to my research paper. I know this is a scholarly source because Levitin is a credible professional in his field and he included a comprehensive list of resources at the end of his novel.

Hansen, V. (2001). *The Musical Brain and its Implications for Education* (Doctoral dissertation, St. Mary's University of Minnesota). Valery Hansen is the choral director at my high school. Her Master's dissertation was on my exact research topic. Her dissertation has proved to be quite helpful thus far and I only anticipate it will continue to provide me with valuable information. I know this is a scholarly source because Hansen is a credible professional in her field, especially since she is still teaching. She spent a great deal of time doing her own research for her dissertation and she included a list of all her resources at the end.

Kansas University. (2008). *Research Matters*. Retrieved December 06, 2016, from <http://www.researchmatters.ku.edu/2008/march/music.shtml> This has proved to be a very informative source. I like this source because it looks at how music education boosts test scores in other academic areas.

This source will greatly help with my opposing side. It know this source is credible because it is a study put out by a credible source, Kansas University, and it includes a comprehensive Works Cited page.