**WRT 105 | Byrd Library Research - Database Assignment II**

Now that you have a working rough draft in place, it’s time to reconsider and further hone your research materials by seeking out two (2) new scholarly sources.

***The gist of this assignment is that writing and revising your draft has also revised and strengthened the way you conceive of your thesis cluster and your essay topic.*** As such, you are in a better position to search for supporting, or perhaps complicating (ala ***Writing Analytically***), sources for the claims you make. You are in a better position

* to identify and use search terms and search phrases, as these phrases will be far more specific to the particular direction of your topic;
* to evaluate the sources you do find, especially now that your argument has coalesced into a specific idea;
* to better understand the genres at work in the disciplines related to your topic;
* to better understand the different situations and literacies driving the conversations around your topic;
* to determine what types of claims you wish to make about your topic;
* to gather more background information so as to better engage the conversation surrounding your topic and your thesis cluster;
* to bring a level of thoughtful complexity and depth to the arguments you make because real inquiry acknowledges that surface-level answers rarely engage the communities /audiences in a meaningful way—such arguments have little rhetorical impact and are rarely productive or worthwhile (think about it—are surface-level answers really worth the time and effort it takes to write an 8 page essay?).

***Remember: part of writing a strong argumentative essay is to acknowledge that your topic, and the argument you hope to make, is part of a larger critical conversation***— a second set of sources rounds out your particular part of that conversation. Academic genres value problem-posing inquiry and academic arguments seek and value complexity.

**Byrd Library Assignment II**

Return to the library’s website / front door here: <http://library.syr.edu/>

* Using SUMMON, enter your new and improved search terms.
* Use the task bar at left to narrow and hone your results.
* Identify two (2) scholarly sources that either support your thesis arguments, or which complicate (i.e. add complexity) to your thinking. ***Note***: these sources should enable you to better articulate and develop your thesis topic—perhaps the source will offer a complimentary perspective, or perhaps the source adds a layer of information that rounds out your cluster’s sense of consequence. The point is to select sources that help in a meaningful way.

***For each source***

* ***Save the source to your computer and bookmark its*** [***Permalink***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Permalink)***.***
* ***Complete the Source Information Form and print it out.***
* ***Print out the following from your source (academic sources tend to be lengthy): The first two pages (don’t include the db coversheet) of the source, and two pages from the source that are most important to your issue-based question / potential thesis cluster.***
* ***Staple your Source Information Form to the top of your source pages.***
* ***Bring the hard copies to class***
* ***Post to both your and the class blog site.***

**WRT 105 | Source Information Form**

Complete this form ***for each of the sources*** you find / draw from your library database research.

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| --- | --- |
| **Title:** |  |
| **Author(s):** |  |
| **Publication:** |  |
| **Publication Info (volume #, page #s, month and year, if part of source’s info)** |  |
| **Pub. Type: (newspaper, popular magazine, trade journal, journal of opinion, scholarly journal)** |  |
| **Date of Publication:** |  |
| **Date Accessed:** |  |
| **Source Type: (review, letter to editor, editorial, column, article, journal article, popular book chapter, scholarly book chapter)** |  |
| **Permalink:** |  |
| **Database: (db name / library catalog)** |  |
| **Main argument of source:** |  |
| **How source is relevant to my topic issue:** |  |
| **How I envision using this source:** |  |
| **Additional Notes / Important Details:** |  |