

HNRS 2000
RESEARCH & EXHIBITION
Spring 2022

Study Party Video 3

February 16

Group: Read and...Argue?

Get together with your Brightspace-assigned groups and arrange to read the assigned chapters and content concurrently. As before, feel free to react to and discuss what you're reading.

Reading

Read *The Craft of Research* Chapter 7 "Making Good Arguments: An Overview," Chapter 8 "Making Claims," and Chapter 16 "Introductions and Conclusions" (yes we're jumping ahead a bit).

Group: Party On

Hold another "study party," this time for the chapters listed to the left. Follow the same process and deliverable as the previous parties, with the following specific segments:

- Each individual member of the group should choose something from the reading and provide some commentary about it, for around 30–90 seconds each
- The overall group should devote a minute or so discussing/reflecting on/arguing over a chosen portion of the reading (and with these readings, you get a new perspective on what an "argument" is!)
- Devote another discussion segment on what it means to "introduce" and "conclude" a proposal. What differentiates an Introduction from an Abstract and a Background/Motivation/Previous & Related Work section? What differentiates a Conclusion from an Expected Results section?

Submission

Please upload the video to your group's designated submission folder on Brightspace, or if applicable submit a link to it that can be accessed by the instructor and/or teaching assistant(s).

Mentor Request Letter/Email Template

You may personalize or embellish the beginning and end of this letter for your prospective mentor, but make sure not to leave anything out of the main body. We want to make sure that your mentor has a clear idea of what this role involves.

A written acceptance of this request from your mentor is *required* for passing this course. It does not have a point allocation because it does not really involve brain work. However, if I don't receive it, a passing grade cannot be given.

Dear _____,

(insert individualized language here about you and your interactions with the professor)

This semester, as part of the Honors Colloquium series in the University Honors Program core, I am taking a course called "Research & Exhibition." This 1-unit course seeks to introduce me to the methods of formal academic and creative work. For the course, I am required to produce an annotated bibliography geared toward helping me find research questions or scholarly aims. At the end of the course, I will produce a five-page proposal + three-minute presentation where I will propose, justify, and describe a potential project based on those questions. I hope to use these skills for future endeavors such as applying for grants and fellowships and especially for my senior-year Honors Thesis requirement.

The course's instructor, Prof. John Dionisio (you might know him as Dondi), has asked that I engage a mentor to guide me through parts of this work. I'm hoping you will consider being my mentor, specifically because my interests are closely related to your expertise in _____. If you agree to mentor me, I would ask for your guidance in the following:

- Providing occasional advice on what sources will inform my area of interest
- Meeting with me after I conduct an initial search of sources to help me formulate a research or creative question
- Giving me feedback on the primary work products for this course: an annotated bibliography, a 5-page research proposal, and a 3-minute visual/oral presentation of that proposal
- Reviewing three monthly one-paragraph "research journal" entries that I will email to you and Dr. Dionisio to summarize my research activity for that month
- Reviewing the content of my final presentation to make sure that it is suitable for posting to the Research & Exhibition page of LMU's Digital Commons, at:

<http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/honors-research-and-exhibition/>

The 3-minute presentation will be delivered to my peers, Dr. Dionisio, and other faculty during finals week. If your schedule permits, you are invited to attend this presentation.

If you are willing and able to mentor me, please let me know, using Reply All so that Dr. Dionisio also gets a copy of your response. Thank you very much for your time and consideration!

(...feel free to conclude this letter in other ways that individualize it for you—but do retain the request for a written response so that we both receive it)

Sincerely,
