

Images of Nature and Culture Honors
Fall 2015
Dr. Murphy

The Problem Solution Essay

Description

In your final essay for the course you will develop a researched argument that focuses on a particular problem of interest to you that you would like to solve. This essay assignment represents the culmination of the various types of writing you have explored during the course of the semester, including: narrative, description, example and illustration, rhetorical analysis, and argument. In the essay you must address a problem that could be solved. Ideally it should be connected to an issue that concerns you. This problem could be connected to the social or physical environment.

Requirements for the Essay:

First and foremost you are making an argument, so you should develop a thesis, either implicit or explicit, that you work to prove with evidence and examples. The argument should pull on the range of rhetorical appeals we have studied in the course: logical, ethical, and emotional. It should also include nods to the opposition and a strong awareness of other points of view that may differ from your own, which you deal with fairly and logically (that is, without resorting to the use of logical fallacies). You must include at least five relevant, reliable sources. In using your sources for the paper, you must use at least five relevant quotations, and address the significance of each quotation you use in a thorough explanation. Finally you must develop a context for the issue within the paper that fully considers the range of perspectives on this particular problem.

Length: 6-8 pages, and a works cited page in MLA style

Peer Reviews and Conferences: Dec. 3rd, Thursday

Final draft due either Dec. 8th or Dec. 10th--please deposit a copy in Moodle and bring me a hard copy.

Resources: Consult the *Bedford Guide*, including the following chapters: especially: 9, 10, 12; also of use--4-8.

*ELA Course Goals Met: II. Critical Thinking and Communication and IV. Reflective Self Awareness and Responsibility

*Please note that an annotated bibliography is required with at least five sources. For the format, please see 655-6 in your *Bedford Guide*. **This bibliography will be graded as the final short essay assignment. Due: Dec. 3, Thursday**