

Progression #3: Addressing a College "Issue"

Essay Requirements

Our third and final progression for the semester will focus on a particular problem or issue related to college education. In our letters to the author, we explored the value of the college experience in terms of costs as well as intellectual achievements. You, as students and writers, were asked to argue with or against that author using evidence to support your position.

Your essay in this progression will capture that same spirit, but now you will be asked to write a **three to four double-spaced page, argumentative essay**.

To produce this essay, we will first read a number of argumentative essays by students in New Voices. We will discuss not only the effectiveness of their arguments, but the organization and structure they employ (i.e. thesis statements, topic sentences, use of evidence, refutation, conclusion). In other words, you will be expected to follow the **"Pillars of Argument"** as explained in Chapter 1 of Practical Argument.

Choosing a Topic

As in Progression 2, I will allow you the freedom to choose which particular topic you want to write about. Remember, it must be related to the college experience. Ask yourself basic research questions to help you choose a topic. For example: Should colleges ban smoking on campus? Should students join a fraternity/sorority?

For information about college related topics, be sure to browse articles in the Sundial, the USA Today College web page, or any other news outlet that focuses on the university experience (Most major news publications cover college related stories.) You may also want to consider responding to a topic addressed in New Voices.

Research

You will need **at least 5 outside sources** and must include a "Works Cited" list at the end of your essay. When you quote key phrases or clauses from your text(s), you must provide parenthetical documentation. Sources may include graphs and charts or other related visuals.

Deadlines

"Rough" Works Cited due 4/1

Draft #1 due 4/3

Draft #2 due 4/15