



Choosing & Using Sources – Syllabus

Course Description: Choosing and using sources is a key part of successful academic essay writing. In this class, students learn about the different types of sources and how each type of source meets a different information need. Students learn how to evaluate sources, then use sources ethically, by creating a works cited list and in-text citations. Finally, students learn proper use of quotations and achieve an understanding of balanced source use within papers. (Note: This class teaches MLA format for citations.)

Course Outline:

Week One: Types of Sources

Week Two: Understanding Sources

A. Information Needs

B. Roles of Sources

Week Three: Evaluating Sources

Week Four: Ethical Use of Sources

Week Five: Citation Basics

A. Why Cite

B. When to Cite

C. The Works Cited List

Week Six: Citation Basics II

A. Signaling Sources

B. Parenthetical Citations

Week Seven: Citing Other Sources

Week Eight: Balanced Source Use

A. Standard & Block Quotes

B. Understanding the Balance



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Choosing & Using Sources – Grading Outline

Choosing & Using Sources will be graded with a combination method.

Some assignments are exercise-based and will be graded like a grammar/exercise assignment, considering the total number of answers in each section. For example, if a student must locate ten instances of plagiarism in an assignment and misses two, he would receive an 80% on that assignment.

Some assignments will be graded according to *The Advanced Writer* grading rubric, with a focus on ideas and content, logical writing and organization, and strong use of language.

All assignment grades for this course will be averaged to receive a final course grade.