**Final Paper Overview**

*ERWC English 12 - Spring 2018*

For the final writing assignment of second semester English 12, students will choose to focus on one of the earlier drafts they worked on from the ERWC unit. Students will use the peer feedback to revise, strengthen, and expand upon their original ideas.

**Essay Requirements:** *Your final ERWC essay will be held to the following expectation, including that it…*

* Must use evidence from the ERWC sources/articles in your response, as well as at least two additional sources/articles not originally provided.
* Must use a thoughtful paragraph structure with clear topic sentences to form a well-connected argument that goes beyond the typical, five paragraph framework.
* Must use a new, original thesis that establishes a clear, logical and expanded argument.
* Must use correctly integrated quotations.
* Must balance relevant evidence with thorough commentary and context.
* Must include a Works Cited Page and accurate page formatting following MLA guidelines.

**Essay Choices:** *Note the unique differences in evidence, analysis and/or perspective required by each individual assignment in order to build on the previous prompt and respond to the new one*

**OPTION 1:
PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT
*Evidence and analysis focus on taking a clear stance and persuading an audience to agree***

**Old Prompt: Juvenile Justice**

* Why do you think society is so eager to hold teens and young adults who commit violent crimes to the same standards as adults? Should teenagers who commit serious, violent crimes be tried as adults? Why or why not, and if so, when and at what age should teens be allowed to be tried as adults?

**New Prompt: Justice Reform**

* In addition to problematic convictions for minors, what other factors do we need to consider in reforming a potentially broken justice system? How can we prevent discrimination against all people who face the justice system, the courts, and potentially unlawful conviction?

**OPTION 1I:
PERSONAL OPINION**

***Evidence and analysis focus on
using personal experience and observation to express a clear, rational argument***

**Old Prompt:
Going For the Look, But Risking Discrimination**

* Explain Cohen’s argument and discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with his analysis. Is this strategy smart? Is it discriminatory? Should it be legal? Why?

**New Prompt: Discrimination in Other Industries**

* Where else do we see discrimination in the hiring practices of non-government industries? What other groups are discriminated against illegally, or legally? To what extent should other industries be allowed to discriminate in hiring, and why?

**OPTION 1II:
RHETORICAL ANALYSIS**

***Evidence and analysis focus on rhetoric used in other author’s arguments, and how that makes for a more convincing argument***

**Old Prompt: The Rhetoric
of the Op-Ed Page**

* How do Rifkin, Stevens and Frazier use rhetorical devices to convince us to agree with their views? Who is the most convincing in their argument, and who uses rhetoric that is flawed or misguided? Which argument regarding the rights and treatment of animals should win, and why?

**New Prompt: The Rhetoric of Animal Rights**

* How do other stakeholders in the discussion of animal rights use rhetoric in their arguments, and in expressing a healthy or unhealthy bias?