

**Argumentative Research Paper:** All drafts and final paper submissions are due at the beginning of class for peer evaluation purposes. No electronic submissions will be accepted. A one grade point deduction per week will be assigned except for documented medical reasons.

Instructions for completing the paper are as follows:

**Title**—(Any Yes/No “philosophical” question approved by professor.) For example, ‘Is it wrong to spend \$10K on a handbag?’

**Section #1**—one word...“yes” or “no” suffices. Simply say how you will answer the question. (For example, “YES”.)

**Section #2**— What have others said who disagree with your position? Quote exactly three sources and be sure to state the reasons for their disagreement. (Exact format of footnotes is up to you, though it is imperative that you carefully cite all your sources. It is recommended that you select the style used in your major field’s professional publications.) Begin each paragraph with the phrase, “It seems that buying a \$10K handbag is NOT wrong, for as Dr. X says, “...””

**Section #3**— What have others said on behalf of your position? Again, document exactly three scholars who agree with you and state the reasons they do so. Begin with the phrase, “On the contrary, it seems that buying a \$10K handbag IS wrong, for as Dr. Y says, “...””

**Section #4**—This is where you explain why you take the position you do. Be sure to back up your claims with evidence and avoid fallacies. It is recommended that you divide this section into three tightly focused and short paragraphs that provide three different arguments for the truth of your position. Remember, your position is not established by the bad reasoning of your opponents. Reserve all attacks for section #5. Begin this section saying, “I answer that buying a \$10K handbag is immoral because...”

**Section #5**—Rebut each of the reasons given by your opponents in section #2.

Please follow this outline exactly. Do not add introductions or conclusions. The assignment will be easier if you get straight to the point. Clarity and precision are of the utmost importance. Do not try to be fancy. The primary goal of the scholastic article is to (a) demonstrate comprehension of a philosophical position, and (b) express reasons for and against a viewpoint. These brief essays are to be typed at 12-pitch in an academic font (e.g. Times New Roman, Helvetica, etc.) and double-spaced, and should be between 5 and 6 pages in length. Portions of this paper are due on selected dates listed in the course calendar. ALL submissions must be typed and as always, no late work is acceptable.

- 1- THE QUR'ĀNIC CONCEPT OF GOD, THE UNIVERSE AND MAN Author(s): FAZLUR RAHMAN Source: Islamic Studies, Vol. 6, No. 1 (MARCH 1967), pp. 1-19 Published by: Islamic Research Institute, International Islamic University, Islamabad Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20832864>
- 2- Creation and Science in the Middle Ages Author(s): William E. Carroll Source: New Blackfriars, Vol. 88, No. 1018 (NOVEMBER 2007), pp. 678-689 Published by: Wiley Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43251185>
- 3- Is God Emeritus, Author(s): SALER MATEWS Source: The American Scholar, Vol. 4, No. 4 (AUTUMN 1935), pp. 389-396 Published by: The Phi Beta appa Society Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41204157>
- 4- Author(s): Richard E. Creel Review by: Richard E. Creel Source: Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Vol. 50, No. 1 (Mar., 1982), p. 168 Published by: Oxford University Press Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1462211>
- 5- The Rhetoric of the Declaration of Independence Author(s): William Raymond Smith Source: College English, Vol. 26, No. 4 (Jan., 1965), pp. 306-309 Published by: National Council of Teachers of English Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/373645>
- 6- God Author(s): Herbert McCabe Source: New Blackfriars, Vol. 82, No. 968 (October 2001), pp. 413-421 Published by: Wiley Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43250616>
- 7- Judaism Author(s): Bernard Harrison Source: Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Vol. 256, Organized Religion in the United States (Mar., 1948), pp. 25-35