

## Memorandum

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To: English 501 students

From: Dr. Newmark

Subject: Guidelines for Article Review assignment

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with details for the Article Review memo assignment.

### **Assignment Overview:**

This assignment affords you an opportunity to assess the “quality” of an article on a topic related to your major research area. You will need to evaluate the quality of the author’s rhetorical strategies (i.e., how he or she makes and supports his or her argument/central claims) in the text. You will choose your article from one of the research databases to which our library subscribes.

### **Assignment Guidelines:**

For this assignment, you will write a 350- to 400-word memo that evaluates an article’s “quality.” The parameters for this assignments are broad. Your first requirement, however, is to present the author’s name, the article title, and the journal title of the text you have chosen in prose at the outset of your memorandum. Next, based on your understanding of the research as conveyed by the author’s writing, you will need to assess whether the author’s writing strategies are effective for the articulation and presentation of these findings. How did the author succeed? How or where did he or she fail? What could the author have improved upon? What were the author’s particular strengths?

Please stay focused on the author’s *writing* in this memorandum. Your job is not to evaluate the research findings. Please write in a multi-paragraph structure and, for your own writing, consider all of the grammar and structure instructions I have given you in class and in my comments on your response paper.

### **Due Dates:**

First draft due: Friday, September 11

Final draft due: Monday, September 14