

Essay 3: Surfacing Subcultures

DUE [day of the week, date, time, & point value]

The **purpose** of this assignment is to write a college-level, thesis-driven research essay that addresses an opposing or alternative viewpoint, and incorporates scholarly research to build credibility in your argument.

You will practice the following **skills** in this assignment:

- summarize relevant points
- craft and defend an argument about a social community
- address a counterargument in the thesis and a body paragraph
- expanding on discussion points to write a longer work
- use online databases to find scholarly journal articles
- cite scholarly journal articles in MLA or APA format

THE NITTY GRITTY (baseline requirements)

You will earn a **5% deduction** to your final essay grade for each missing requirement.

- Follow MLA or APA format.
- Write a minimum of **8 *FULL* pages** (about 2700 words) of argumentative development.
- Quote from and cite:
 - at least **6** peer-reviewed journal articles from our university's library databases
 - at least **2** credible outside sources of your choice (e.g. online news/magazine article, organization website, TED Talk, video interview, etc.)
- Include a Works Cited (MLA) or References (APA) page. This does not count towards the page/word count requirement.

THE TASK

STEP 1: Consider the sources you found for the **Annotated Bibliography** and what they helped you understand about your subculture.

STEP 2: Ask a clear, focused, complex research question about your subculture based on what you learned from your Annotated Bib. sources.

Example: How does model minority status negatively impact Asian American high schoolers?

STEP 3: Develop an expanded thesis statement (**counterarg** + **main arg** + “**So what**”) that answers your research question.

Example: While being a model minority protects Asian Americans from some discrimination, it ultimately hurts the social lives and self-image of Asian American high schoolers, which prevents them from developing confidence in adulthood.

STEP 4: Create an outline of your essay (**due [day & date]**) that provides a basic overview of the argument, discussion points, evidence, and analysis that you plan to discuss in your essay.

Pro-tip - This is a great assignment to bring to [link to tutoring services] for feedback and extra credit!

STEP 5: Write a rough draft of your essay (**due [day & date]**) by adding to the basic points from your outline and turning them into rough paragraphs.

Pro-tip - This is also a great assignment to bring to [link to tutoring services] for feedback and extra credit!

STEP 6: Revise your rough draft to produce a polished, college-level version of your essay (**due [day & date]**). Below are some final steps you should take before submitting your polished draft on Blackboard.

- Read your essay out loud to smooth out grammar and catch typos.
- Double check the nitty gritty requirements (see above) and all steps in this prompt (see above).