

Essay Three – Multi-Genre Research Paper Analyzing the Arguments in three essays (*your choice) from *The Displaced*.

IMPORTANT DATES

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| □ <i>proposal (1 page, 1 pt.) due</i> | <i>Thursday, March 21</i> |
| □ <i>research notes (2 pages, 2 pts.)</i> | <i>Thursday, March 21</i> |
| □ <i>rough draft (3 genres, 1 page, 1 pt.)</i> | <i>Tuesday, March 26</i> |
| □ <i>outline (2+ pages, 1 pt.)</i> | <i>Tuesday, March 26</i> |
| □ <i>rough draft (1,500 words+, 1 pts.)</i> | <i>Tuesday, March 26</i> |
| □ <i>meet with a tutor (or me) by</i> | <i>Wednesday, April 3</i> |
| □ <i>final draft (1,500+ words, plus 4 genres, 15 pts.) due</i> | <i>Friday, April 5</i> |

All of these must be typed using MLA format (Use the Word doc online for the research notes/worksheet)

[Multi-Genre Research Paper](#)

[A Guide to Research Writing](#)

[Visual Rhetoric: Overview](#)

What is Multi-Genre Research (MGR)?

“A multi-genre paper arises from research, experience, and imagination. ... [It] is composed of many genres and subgenres, each piece self-contained, making a point of its own, yet connected by theme or topic and sometimes by language, images, and content. ... The skill is to make such a paper hang together as a whole.” ~Tom Romano, *Blending Genre, Altering Style*

*You may have written standard research papers in years past, but for this course you will be trying something a little different: a Multi-Genre Research Paper Analyzing the Arguments in three essays (*your choice) from The Displaced.*

"[Multigenre papers] recognize that there are many ways to see the world, many ways to show others what we see." -- Tom Romano, teacher, author, and inventor of the multigenre paper

[Your Process for This Paper](#)

Research: You must cite at least six sources in your final paper, including no more than three carefully- selected internet sources; the others must be taken from the library databases, available here. The nine sources that you cite must be used in some way in your final draft. We'll be meeting in the computer lab several times over the next couple of weeks, so that you can do research on the internet and using the library databases. You can use Wikipedia as a guide to finding other sources, but do not use information from it directly, and do not cite it as one of your sources.

[The Paper](#)- *MLA formatted 1,500+ words, plus 4 genres*

[Writer's Purpose](#): *Your job is to persuade a particular audience of your choosing about a specific topic using research to back up your writing. Parts of your work should define your argument and persuade your readers, other parts may be strictly informational - but the information given should also contribute to your persuasive goal. In terms of what you're trying to convey to me, your teacher:*

You're trying to show that you can write well in a variety of different styles, that you can do research and "orchestrate" information you get from various sources, and that you can gain for yourself and convey in writing an overall understanding of an important, challenging topic.

Audience: *You choose the audience that your paper speaks to. Depending on the genres and content, it could be an audience of a certain time period, a certain age level, or any other demographic you think is appropriate. DON'T try to write to an audience of "everybody," because if you try to please everybody you will end up pleasing nobody. Since it is a class assignment, your peers and teacher will be reading your paper.*

Form: *Your final paper must include:*

- *Either a table of contents or a preface that tells your readers what genres you are including and why*
- *At least four different genres. ([See a list of possible genres here.](#) If you wish to use a genre not listed, please approve it with me first.)*
- *A conclusion that ties your paper together*
- *A list of works cited in MLA format*

The four (or more) genres can be presented in any format and order you choose. But you should choose their order carefully so you can build up a strong argument in the overall text. Do not simply cut and paste five (essay + four genres) and call it a paper. Use your own discretion as to the margins and font you wish to use for each genre. As you'll see from the list, not all the genres will be completely non-fictional. You are free to merge the non-fictional research you do with fictional context (like, for instance, the film Titanic).

Grading Criteria:

Structure (10%): *The project includes a table of contents, information/persuasion presented in at least five genres, and a correctly formatted bibliography. The structure of the paper contributes to an argument that becomes increasingly convincing to the audience as it reads.*

Quality of Content (50%): *Each of the required elements is strong in its language, clarity, and information. A convincing argument is presented, in a way that is appropriate to the intended audience .*

Creativity/Appropriateness of Genres (15%): *The paper shows thought, effort, and creativity on the part of the writer. The genres included are varied and appropriate for the content presented and specific genre conventions are met.*

Research (15%): *Research was thoroughly performed and documented and at least six sources were used and cited in the final paper.*

Grammar and Mechanics (10%): *The paper has been proofread and corrected according to the usual standards of Edited American English. (Note that this does NOT apply to genres in which it's inappropriate: for example, a diary entry from someone who is in the process of learning English.)*