

The Death Penalty Unit: Paper 5 Assignment

Evaluative Synthesis

This paper asks that you write an evaluative synthesis covering two elements in the controversy surrounding the death penalty. To find sources to integrate into the synthesis for this paper, you will need to draw upon information found in the links provided on the webpage entitled "Articles for Investigating the Death Penalty," along with sources from the NWACC databases. Choose at least FIVE of these sources to integrate into your paper. As in paper four, this paper requires that you synthesize multiple and often opposing views on a key subtopic (for example, whether or not the death penalty acts as a deterrent for those who might commit crimes) of the issue (the death penalty). The goal of synthesizing is to further a reader's understanding of an issue by presenting these multiple views and also requires indicating the relationship between various experts and sources. Then, the assignment asks that you evaluate those views while contributing your own opinion as this relates to the arguments presented in the synthesis while drawing upon support found in the sources.

Organize the body of the paper around TWO main subtopics that various authors and resources address in their discussions of the death penalty. You are not required to provide a summary for this paper. Strive to include the views of three sources for each subtopic.

- State the sub-topic that the paragraphs will explore.
- Paraphrase each perspective on the sub-topic by referring to the authors and resources that make up a viewpoint.
- Explain the evidence and reasoning used to support each perspective on the subtopic.
- Briefly identify the relationship between the various positions on the subtopic and explain any implications that one view might have upon another.
- Evaluate the evidence and reasoning offered for each perspective of the sub-topic through specific reference to the sources.
- Indicate which perspective or view is the more convincing and why (again through reference and support gained from the sources).

**Include parenthetical citation after all tightly paraphrased and quoted material within your essay(following MLA format).

**Refrain in this paper from the use of the pronoun "I" in indicating your opinions.

Introduction:

Using one of the introductory methods as a model, create an introduction that captures the readers' interest or is provocative. You may, of course, use materials that you find in the source links to craft this introduction. In this paper, the thesis statement may appear at the end of this introduction or in a short paragraph following the introduction which further outlines the issues involved in considering the death penalty. As always, in your introduction be sure to remain specific in your language choices while remaining general in your discussion of the ideas.

Conclusion:

In this paper, the conclusion should in some manner call for an action. At the close of the paper, determine whether the United States should abolish the death penalty, should continue it as is, should continue with some changes (tell what these changes should be) or should call a moratorium (indicate what, if any, problems need to be resolved in the interim).

Works Cited Page: Include an entry for each source used in the paper (paraphrased or quoted). This does not count toward your total page length for the paper.

Suggested Length: approximately 5-6 pages