

Rogerian fact-based Arguments: Group Write Assignment Guidelines

Being a critical reader of your own work, that is, being someone who possesses the skills and willingness to look at your own work's successes and failures at the level of language and rhetoric, is vital to the success of your own speech. This Group Write assignment asks you to do just that, albeit in a group setting.

As part of your Rogerian, fact-based argument pitch project this unit, your group is to work together to create a **6 full page (minimum)** document that critically evaluates the effectiveness of your own speech and argument constructions in your Prezi deck and verbal pitch to the class. You will have the benefit of peer review sheets (via a tool in iLearn I'll explain during the unit) and your own mastery of the rhetorical forms and patterns we've studied up through this point in the semester to draw from as you mount a critical appraisal of your own work at the level of argument. Similar to your Prezis and pitches, the point of this group write assignment is to demonstrate mastery of the principles of **fact-based** argument as set within a **Rogerian framework** and cast in a business or professional setting. These are described at length in the assigned accompanying reading from *Everything's an Argument* and will be discussed in class throughout the unit.

Again, this is a **fully collaborative writing assignment** that's due one week *after* you've made your formal pitch to the class. **No single person in your group should be tasked with writing the document:** each group member must take an equal part in both the writing *and* proofreading of the work. In this group write, you'll want to be sure to include a description of the argument strategies you deployed in your formal pitch and then a post-presentation examination of the successes and failures of those patterns and strategies given the feedback you will have received from your classmates.

There are sample group writes on our course page at GregTeach so you can see what kind of document I'm looking for. Your speech throughout should be academic (**present tense, third person voice**) and expertly proofread – there should be no sentence level errors anywhere in the work. Formatting should follow that of a standard academic essay at this level: **Double spaced, 1" margins, Times font**. An additional page or more for a fully formatted APA Reference List *or* MLA Works Cited List (you may choose which citation standard you'd like to follow for this group write) containing entries for **all** of the sources you've actively used in the creation of your Prezi, verbal pitch *and* group write should accompany your essay but is of course *not* included in the 6-page minimum requirement.

Group Write are worth 20 points and will be folded into your group's project grade for the unit. Recall that there is a single project grade for the entire group, meaning that it will be incumbent on each of you to support and encourage each other's writing and proofreading work here to ensure that you all rise and succeed together. Please review the **Error Patterns Primer** and **Proofreading Notes** sheets available on our course page at GregTeach *before* you submit your final versions so as to make sure you're eliminating all of the most common student writing error patterns from the writing before it gets to me.

Below I've outlined for you what your group is required to cover and approximately how much space you should dedicate to each section.

Contextual Information (2 pp max):

- Identification of:
 1. Your organization or group
 2. The imagined audience
 3. Identified problem and your proposed solutions
- A short summary of the main argument pitch along with principal argument(s) and evidence offered to make that pitch
- A brief description of how each student has contributed to each aspect of the project (research, group write, project development, presentation work)

Structural Description & Analysis (2 pp +):

- An explanation of how the proposal is aligned with fact-based argument strategies, per *EA* Chapter 8
- An explanation of how the proposal adheres to a Rogerian rhetorical framework, per *EA* Chapter 7
- Identification and brief description of the specific appeals (pathos, logos, ethos) utilized in the project presentation and an explanation of how and why those were used
- Identification and brief description of the “occasions” selected for your argument (deliberative, forensic, ceremonial) and why that (those) were chosen
- Identification and brief description of all other specific argument strategies deployed in the pitch or Prezi presentation

Meta-analysis (2 pp +):

- A self-critique of presentation and project work, examining and articulating:
 - Specific successes and failures in terms of argument construction as you see them, given the response from the class
 - Risks and challenges associated with adopting a fact-based Rogerian framework for your pitch, and how you adjusted to and overcame them in your drafting process
 - Lessons learned: how your group would approach the same challenge differently or not given its experience now