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**Contributing to the conversation**

In the synthesis paper you presented the conversation around your topic. For your research paper you must now insert yourself into the conversation. This project asks you to research a topic and develop an argument around an element of the topic. Three ways scholarly arguments tend to pitch their contribution to the conversation are *correcting-misinterpretations*, *filling-the-gap*, and *modifying-what-others-have-said*. You are welcome to follow these patterns or discuss your position in some other way. The topic is of your own choosing. You should use the research you have already done from your synthesis paper. However, if in the course of writing your synthesis paper you found that you wanted to change topics you can change your topic for the research paper if you are willing to do new research for it.

**Format**

The **format** for this project is that of an *essay,* however, if there is a more appropriate format given your topic and audience, you can consider using another format. You **audience** is your choice but it should be clear from the presentation, word choice, and evidence who your intended audience is.

Your discussion should establish what the current conversation is like around your topic/issue and what your contribution to that conversation is.

**Requirements**

* 5 sources minimum
* 750 - 1250 words
* 2 visuals (pictures, charts or graphs)
* Provide at least one example of quantitative data used as support for a point
* At least one example each of direct quotation and paraphrase

**Peer-review Draft due Friday, November 20th** submitted through the Blackboard discussion forum.