SYS Spr 2025 PIRCA E #2 Prompt

**DUEDATES** – note - **due dates are non-negotiable** – plan well and use your time-management skills – **no extensions will be given**.

**Topic idea of Essay #2 – DUE –** BEFORE April 17th by 23:59 – (see below) – but since your

List of External Sources is ALSO due on April 17th – you should do this much EARLIER than April 17th.

**List of External Sources and URL’s – DUE** – April 17th by 23:59 pm by email only, Word only

 (see below)

**Pre-Writing = PW** – **DUE** – April 24, Thrs, by 23:59 pm for no late penalty

 **ONLY by email – ONLY in Microsoft Word**

 LENGTH – **as much as needed** – but an essay 2,500 words long will REQUIRE at least 12 paragraphs (probably more)

 **EVERY PARAGRAPH needs to be outlined** – see below.

**1st Draft** – **DUE** – Fri, May 2 by 23:59 pm for no late penalty

 **ONLY by email – ONLY in Microsoft Word** – draft – **2,500** words

 **MUST** **INCLUDE REVISED PW** (an essay with NO revised PREWRITE **will lose an entire grade level**: i.e, if your 1st draft earns a B -, but if you have NO revised PW, it will be a C -. The 1st draft MUST follow the outline provided in your revised PW.

**FINAL DRAFT** – **DUE** – Thurs, May 15 by 23:59 for no late penalty

 **ONLY on eCourse – ONLY in Microsoft Word** – final draft – **2,500** words

**NO AI – no PLAGIARISM – NO external sources are allowed beside the ones I say are OK** (see below).

**PW – NOT a DRAFT – NOT a FREEWRITE** – See doc on eCourse called ‘Prewriting’

 **MUST include the following parts** –

 BRAINSTORM (see doc on eCourse under ‘Writing Aids’)

 CLAIM (see doc on eCourse under ‘Writing Aids’)

 \***NEW!** – on THIS PW – you must write **3 or 4 OBJECTIONS** or **counterarguments to your claim** right after claim – label them ‘counterarguments’ – I want YOU to think about possible objections to your claim. You can later decide later if you want to use them in your essay or not, but on Essay #1 there should have been more testing of your own ideas. Some of the claims had obvious problems.

 OUTLINE (see doc on eCourse under ‘Writing Aids’)

 MLA (see doc on eCourse under ‘Writing Aids’)

 USE of REQUIRED SOURCES

 Must be submitted by email only in Microsoft Word

**1st Draft MUST INCLUDE the following parts**

 A REVISED PW – Brainstorm, claim, outline, MLA, use of required sources

* **A surprising number of students did NOT include a revised PW with their 1st draft – despite the fact that it was written as a requirement on the prompt.**
	+ **Don’t make the same mistake TWICE**
	+ **Think about the value and use of prewriting, original and revised, in your academic development.**

 A draft of 2,500 words in English that is based on your revised PW

 Must be submitted by email only in Microsoft Word

**Final Draft** – 2,500 words, English….

 Must be submitted on the eCourse only in Microsoft Word

**REQUIRED SOURCES** – you MUST use:

 1. No AI

 2. No external sources unless I OK them – see below

 3. No plagiarism

 4. The “Definitions” sheet –

 What do you need to use? Whatever supports your argument.

 How much of it? However much supports your argument.

 5. At least 4 DIFFERENT sources from our assigned class readings that are not from the “Definitions” sheet.

 This means that you CANNOT use the SAME assigned readings 4 times and have it count as 4 sources.

 6. 4 EXTERNAL ACADEMIC Sources – ONLY 4, not 0, 1, 2, 3, or 5, 6, 7….

 EXTERNAL means at least 4 sources NOT from the course readings, either “Definitions” or assigned readings.

 ACADEMIC means up to standards of academic research.

 Since you haven’t studied how to do this, I have, and since we don’t have the time to study this, and since AUCA students often use AI, you MUST submit the list of your sources AND URLs of EVERY SOURCE to me before or on **April 17th** (23:59 by email), I will check them and email you back if they are OK or not. **You can ONLY use sources I OK – no others**.

**TOPIC**

 *You* decide what you want to write on – **BUT – you MUST discuss this with me before April 17th and I must OK your topic**. When and how is up to your schedule, you can come to office hours, set up a meeting, before or after class, by email… **but any topic NOT OK’d by me will receive an F.**

 Some guidelines –

 1. It MUST be about the pre-Islamic Religions of Central Asia. Nothing about Mormonism in the American West in the 1800s, the rise of Confucius Institutes in contemporary South America, or Scientology in Germany.

 2. It must relate to the course MATERIALS.

 Most students want to write about the psychological benefits of mindfulness in today’s busy world because there are already online essays written on that. Well, that’s NOT a pre-Islamic theme, is it? And how could you use the “Definitions” sheet and 4 sources from assigned reading in class on this topic? You might be able to, but it’s still not pre-Islamic, so it is NOT a viable topic.

 3. The solution is to talk to me about your topic before you begin. You have to anyway.

 ONLY topics I agree to are acceptable, just as ONLY external sources I agree to are acceptable.

**MANAGE YOUR TIME WISELY.**

**FOLLOW ISNTRUCTION.**

**EDIT YOUR WORK.**