

AP4CTE AP Seminar: Building a Dynamic Workforce

Research Strategies for Innovating and Problem-solving Across Career Paths

Module 6, Resource: The Rogerian Method of Argumentation Template

Rogerian method is best used and applied to complex problem-solving arguments where multiple compelling positions strongly exists and compete. The method begins by objectively and neutrally exploring the major perspectives of a problem, acknowledging points of agreement in search of a potential third position of compromise.

Introduction Provides the basis for the problem, context and necessary history and/or definitions for understanding, and acknowledges the relevant perspectives to be discussed in the rest of the argument; tone is a bit more exploratory, but provides reasons as to why compromise on the issue may be best course of action, and acknowledge what that compromise will be for later in the argument	
Relevant Perspectives For each of the two major perspectives acknowledged, the paper should provide the same kind of reasoning consistent with the Toulmin method, including major logical claims, the grounds for each claim, what warrants the claims, and what qualifiers or limitations to each view exist. Tone remains objective and neutral in presentation, and should synthesize relevant literature in support of each side.	
Argument for Side A	Argument for Side B

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Common Ground

This section should synthesize the two perspectives, likely pointing out the significant areas of disagreement first, and then laying out important areas of agreement from which to build a solution from a middle ground. This section should also stay fairly neutral, acknowledging from the points of view before inserting a new argument in the next section.

Compromise

It is here that the writer begins to build their *own* novel argument—from the areas of agreement and disagreement, the writer should make a central claim that satisfies the initial problem, utilizing the strengths of both perspectives, while providing additional evidence to support the compromise in light of areas of agreement and disagreement; this solution *should* provide mutual benefit to both sides while acknowledging any qualifiers or sacrifice from the initial positions (while also providing reasoning as to the benefit of such).

Conclusion

Follows similar structure to other argument forms—provides a restatement of the problem, the given solution and its benefit, and acknowledges major limitations and areas for additional research and/or calls to action.