FIRST YEAR SEMINAR

Dr. Steven Thomas
FYS 101-54A, spring 2011

office phone: x3193
time: odd days, 2:40—3:50
office: Quad 352-B
place: SJU Quad 342
odd days, 12:30—1:00 pm
even days, 2:15—3:00 pm
and also by appointment

office hours:

GOALS FOR COURSE

• Develop research skills and strategies for evaluating sources of information
• Write a long research paper
• Learn how to present clear arguments while engaging different points of view
• Practice public speaking
• Understand how writing and argument function in the world
• Explore career possibilities and job market strategies
• Investigate the relationships among careers, the practice of writing and research, and
democratic governance

TEXTS:

• On-line through Moodle: https://moodle.csbsju.edu/login/
• On-line through CSBSJU library

ASSIGNMENTS:

• Memo on Issue
• Expanded Bibliography, MLA and APA styles
• Writing pro and con, MLA and APA styles
• Annotated Bibliography, MLA and APA styles
• Map of positions, stakeholders, audiences, and primary actors for issue
• Report on Relevant Civil Society Organizations, Chicago style
• Resume, Cover Letter, and Analysis of Profession
• State of Debate Essay, Chicago style
• First Draft of Final Paper, style of your choice
• Oral Presentations
• Final Draft of Final Paper, style of your choice
• Daily attendance and participation
EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES:

• I expect you to come to class every day, having done the reading and ready to ask questions about it and discuss it. More than three absences will lower your attendance and participation grade.

• I expect you to complete all of the assignments listed above on time and follow the guidelines for MLA, APA, or Chicago depending on which style is required for the particular assignment. The particular goals and requirements for each assignment will be posted on Moodle. All written work should follow the default settings for most word processing software: one-inch margins and 12 point Times New Roman font.

• Any act of plagiarism can result in an F for the course and can go on your permanent academic record. Please see The College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University’s official policy on plagiarism under students’ Rights and Responsibilities in the on-line catalogue here: <http://www.csbsju.edu/Academics/Academic-Catalogs/2009-2011-Catalog/Programs/Rights.htm>.

• All students have the right of non-discriminatory access to the programs at the colleges. If you have a disability and require special consideration, you must inform me as soon as possible.

• I reserve the right to change this syllabus at any time during the semester and will inform you of all changes in a timely manner.
ASSIGNMENTS CALENDAR

Jan. 16 (Mon)  Introduction  Martin Luther King, Jr. and Civil Society Organizations

Recommended: Kirt Wilson, “Memories of King,” Tuesday, Jan. 17 (T) at CSB in Gorecki


Jan. 24 (Tue)  Individual meetings in my office, Quad 352B

Jan. 26 (Thu)  Individual meetings in my office, Quad 352B

Jan. 30 (Mon)  Due: Memo on Issue with Works Cited (MLA style)  Meet in Clemens Library Training Room, CSB campus with librarian Molly Ewing


Feb. 3 (Fri)  Due: Expanded Bibliography, in both MLA and APA styles

Feb. 7 (Tue)  “Single Parent Families.” CQ Researcher, 10 September 1976. CQ Researcher.

Feb. 9 (Thu)  Due: Writing pro and con (pro in MLA, con in APA style)


Feb. 15 (Wed)  Due: Annotated Bibliography, in both MLA and APA styles
Feb. 17 (Fri)  Single Parent Center. Web.
                Planned Parenthood. Web.
                Rector, Robert and Rachel Sheffield. “Poor or Not? Marriage Makes the Difference.”
                Single Mothers By Choice. Web.

                Albelda, Randy. Time Binds: US Antipoverty Policies, Poverty, and the Well-Being of

Feb. 23 (Thu)  Due: Map of the positions, stakeholders, audiences, and primary actors for issue

Feb. 27 (Mon)  Lee, Sang Min and Jason Kushner. “Single-parent families: the role of parent’s and
                Pong, Suet-Ling, et. Al. “Family Policies and children’s School Achievement in Single-

Feb. 29 (Wed)  Due: report on the relevant civil society organizations, Chicago style

Mar. 2 (Fri)    Career Services Website, specifically resumes and cover letters
                Erica Rademacher, guest

SPRING BREAK . . . Mar. 3, Saturday—Mar. 11, Sunday

Mar. 13 (Tue)  Due: Resume and Cover Letter and Analysis of Profession relevant to topic

                Muse.
                Abramovitz, Mimi. “Mothers of Invention.” Book Review. The Women’s Review of

Mar. 19 (Mon)  Library Day

Mar. 21 (Wed)  Hanson, Shirley M.H. and Michael J. Sporakowski. “Single Parent Families.” Family
                Relations 35:1 (1986). JSTOR.
                Risman, Barbara. “Can Men ‘Mother’? Life as a Single Father.” Family Relations 35:1
                (1986). JSTOR.

Mar. 23 (Fri)   Due: State of the Debate Essay, Chicago style
Mar. 27 (Tue)    Individual Meetings in my office, Quad 352-B
Mar. 29 (Thu)    Individual Meetings in my office, Quad 352-B
Apr. 2 (Mon)     Due: Rough Draft of Final Paper, style of your choice
Apr. 4 (Wed)     Reading To Be Announced (Moodle)

EASTER RECESS . . . Apr. 5, Thurs.—Apr. 9, Mon.

Apr. 11 (Wed)    Reading To Be Announced (Moodle)
Apr. 13 (Fri)    Oral Presentations
Apr. 17 (Tue)   Oral Presentations
Apr. 19 (Thu)    Oral Presentations
Apr. 23 (Mon)    Due: Second Rough Draft with Annotated Bibliography of Further Research

SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVITY DAY . . . Apr. 25, Wed

Apr. 26 (Thu)    Individual Meetings in my office, Quad 352-B
Apr. 30 (Mon)    Individual Meetings in my office, Quad 352-B
May 3 (Wed)      Final Draft Peer-Review Workshop
May 5 (Fri)      Due: Final Draft