WRT 90 Research Paper: Finding a Topic, Articles, and Citations

A summary of what you will accomplish:

• Explore a list of possible topics for your paper, and then choose one.
• Identify three articles for your topic: the Overview, a “Point” article, and a “Counterpoint” article.
• Email the three articles to your PCC Gmail. Then from your Gmail...
  ○ Print each of these articles.
  ○ For each article, copy the automatic MLA citation and paste it into a new Word document. This will be the Works Cited list for your paper, and you’ll be on your way!

Get started:

✓ Print these instructions. (Printing is optional, but suggested. 4 pages.)
✓ You should have already opened the library database (Points of View Reference Center). If not, return to the research guide and open it: libguides.pima.edu/beckman100

Step 1: Explore topics, and then choose one
✓ Click Show All. [Circled below].

✓ Review the list of topics. Click a topic to skim its Overview article. Take your time. Explore.
✓ When you’ve chosen a topic, open its Overview article, and proceed to the next step.

Step 2: Email this Overview article to your PCC Gmail.
With the Overview article open, click Email.  [Circled below.]

Enter your email address.  
Example:  alincoln65@mail.pima.edu

Enter a Subject.  
Example:  WRT 100 Bullying Overview

Step 3:  Find related articles

Open the Overview article, and then click Points of View.  [Circled below.]

This will display a list of articles that relate to your topic.  Go to the next step.

Step 4:  Identify a “Point” article and a “Counterpoint” article.

• You’ll see a variety of articles listed.
Focus on the titles that begin with “Point” or “Counterpoint.” These articles take opposing sides in a controversy. They come in matching pairs, but they may not be displayed next to each other.

Your topic may have multiple pairs of these opposing articles, each pair argues about a different controversy. Find the best pair for your paper, and make sure their topics match.

**Step 5: Email these two articles to your PCC Gmail.**

- Open each article separately, and email it. (See Step 2 above.)
- Enter an appropriate Subject for the email.

**Step 6: From Gmail, print each of the articles.**

- Open your PCC Gmail, from MyPima.
- Open an email. This contains the complete (full text) article.
- Click the Printer icon. (See below. Your icon may be in a different location.)
- Print all three emails.

**Step 7: Open a new Word document, and copy/paste an MLA citation for each article.**

- Open a new Word document (or other word-processor document).
✓ Save the document. Name it: WRT 100 Works Cited.
✓ Open one of your three emails.
  o The library database has included a pre-formatted MLA citation
✓ Copy the MLA citation (see image below), then paste it into your Word document.
✓ Do this for all three articles.
✓ Save your work! Congratulations.

Pima Community College Library
Joe Brewer, Librarian (Downtown Campus)
Get help via an email form: libanswers.pima.edu