

## English 201

### Essay # 5

You are to write a letter to the editor of a local or national paper about a subject of your choosing.

You are also to write a **second letter to the editor arguing the opposite viewpoint.**

Each letter is to be **one and a half to two pages long.** Each letter should utilize convincing arguments, quote statistics or authorities, and address counterarguments. Both letters should be serious, well-reasoned attempts to argue positions. Each essay should use to at least two sources.

A final component of this last major writing assignment is your **public presentation.** Each student will read these final essays to the class in the last weeks of the semester. Students must practice their essays so that they can maintain eye contact with their audience, and are welcome to bring visual aids to make their arguments more convincing.

**Extra credit:** In today's polarized society we too often see only two sides to an issue whereas there are frequently other ways to view situations. If you wish to argue a third viewpoint related to the first two (also of one and a half to two pages in length) this third essay will be used as extra credit.