

Tips for Writing Assignment 2 – Modules 7-11

Remember, all papers must be in APA format, and use peer-reviewed, scholarly sources. If you have any questions, the library is a great resource. So is this following website for APA: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Here is one way to approach your paper. Note that there are many ways to approach your paper, and this outline is simply a guide. Regardless of the format, or how you decide to focus your topic,

YOU MUST

- a) identify stakeholders, and their interests explicitly,
- b) use teamwork, as discussed in the course, to navigate the conflicting interests between stakeholders,
- c) explore solutions that satisfy each stakeholder group.

A note on opinions...

You also can use your opinions in the paper (usually, students will do this at the beginning or end). Here's an example of an acceptable, and unacceptable, way to use your opinion.

Acceptable

I personally do/do not think abortion is ethical, but through creative problem solving & teamwork with stakeholder groups, I believe I have come up with a solution that will satisfy all groups.

Unacceptable

Abortion is/is not ethical. (Notably, if you go to found your paper on your personal opinion, you will receive a low grade – I want to see you go into depth!).

Here is one way to structure your paper. Note that this is an outline/brainstorming session for a paper, and not a final draft

1. Establish the topic of your paper.

TOPIC: Abortion

FOCUS OF PROBLEM: Some people want them, and others do not (I will focus on the medical community, and lump all people against abortion together into one stakeholder group. This can be broken down. Note, **it is OK to focus your topic!**).

GOAL OF PAPER: Examine some points of view, and find a solution.

2. Provide background information

After establishing the topic, focus, and goal, discuss some **background information on the topic selected**. **This should not be the majority of your paper, and it should be neutral.** You may include your own point of view, but you must state that it is your own view.

Some things I would include in the abortion paper would be as follows:

- Current legal status of abortion
- Origins of the conflict
- For my paper, since I will be looking at health care practitioners, I will discuss the rules that currently exist about doctors refusing to do abortions/refer.
- what would happen if everybody were allowed to get an abortion
- what would happen if abortions were banned.

3. Identify stakeholder groups (you want 3-5 minimum for your paper. More is great, too! Just make sure you can address all their needs in the solutions).

I would then **explicitly** identify stakeholder groups, and their needs/goals.

- The women who would like to get abortions (want the right to choose what to do with their body, need a doctor to perform abortions)
- People who do not think women should get them either for religious/ethical reasons (want the right to impose their own morals on others, may want the right to protest close to clinics/on campuses/etc., and want the right to not be subject to abortions against their will. Believe often that abortion is similar to murder).
- Doctors/nurses who do not want to perform abortions on medical grounds, but want to work in an area of health care that may require them to refer patients for abortions (want to be free to decline services on moral/ethical grounds).
- Doctors/nurses who will perform abortions if requested (want to be kept safe from people imposing their morals/ethics on others, want to provide abortions).
- Nursing/Medical students who are ethically opposed to performing abortions (want their training to exclude training on abortions, and do not want to be graded on abortions).

4. Discuss making a team to problem solve

Next, I would discuss how to bring **all of these people together into a team to problem-solve. I will leave this area open to you.** Most students do well when they discuss stakeholder problem-solving in a team.

5. Discuss your creative solutions. Here is just one, of hundreds, of examples of possible outcomes.

- At the beginning, everyone agrees that they don't want to be told to do something they disagree with, so the group decides not to approach the problem solving situation this way (this leaves the people against abortion upset, so we will need to work on making sure the solution includes them. Team leader asks them – short of banning abortion/restricting access – would make them more comfortable with the situation, and sends them to a break-off group to brainstorm together).
- The issue of women wanting abortions is resolved at the most basic level: it has been established that they will continue to be able to elect to terminate pregnancy. The stakeholder group of women is happy, but realizes that they may need to compromise with some stakeholder groups.
- Doctors/nurses who do not want to preform abortions agree with doctors and nurses who want to preform abortions that nobody should be forced to do something they do not want to do (this, for the doctors/nurses who preform abortions could include forcing a woman to continue a pregnancy when she or he has the skills to terminate the pregnancy safely/medically). They agree that each doctor/nurse has the right to decide if they will or will not preform abortions.
- They ask the medical/nursing students if a suitable solution would be to allow medical students against abortions to be except from hands-on training on providing abortions, but the doctors/nurses collectively agree that everyone should know how the process works. The medical/nursing students are permitted to opt-out of hands-on training, and instead watch video modules about how the process is preformed (the doctors/nurses and students will continue to discuss if they want training on how to terminate a pregnancy of an unviable fetus, and discuss options). Possibly, training is provided that aligns with the unique morals, ethics, and practice desires of students.
- Break-away group has come back. They ask the following:
 - Doctors/nurses all keep information on alternatives to abortion, if it is requested.
 - Doctors/nurses all mention that there are alternatives, and ask every woman if she wants the information.
 - Contact info on faith-based counsellors (multi-faith), adoption agencies, mothers who decided to not have abortions & can act as mentors, ect. Be resources the doctors/nurses have on hand if asked.
 - Doctors/nurses have a sign stating that “There are alternatives to abortion, and the doctors/nurses can direct you to them + resources if interested” in the waiting room. (Group modifies this to state “However, your body means that it is your choice, and you need to make the best choice for yourself)

6. Conclude

Here, you can discuss why this solution was creative, how you used teamwork, your personal connection to an issue, etc. It is really up to you!