Comp II Argument Research Paper Project The major assignment of Composition II requires you to write a research-based argumentative paper on a topic of interest to you. After introducing your topic in a topic proposal, you will continue to develop your research question and thesis statement to write an 1800-2400 word (six to eight pages) paper. Your thesis statement will make a valid claim and will reflect your own critically well thought out argument. You will collect, summarize, analyze, and evaluate a variety of sources (journals, books, electronic, personal interviews, etc.) to formulate a research question that you will answer in your paper. Length of Paper: 6-8 pages (NOT including the Works Cited list) Purpose: To actively participate in the research process by conducting research about a specific topic and by developing an argument in response to a research question. Audience: Formal Voice: Academic, argumentative, authoritative, knowledgeable. 1. The research paper will consist of the following: Þ Introduction Þ Thesis statement (included in introduction) Þ Body paragraphs Þ Supported counterargument(s) with supported rebuttal(s) Þ Conclusion Þ Works Cited 2. Your research paper should follow MLA style guidelines (APA with approval). Consult a copy of a citation handbook, Blackboard links, PowerPoint presentations, class notes, and handouts I have either given you or posted in Blackboard over the course of the semester. 3. REQUIRED format: Þ Follow MLA or APA style format. Þ Left justify headings 1” from the top of the page. Þ Right justify page numbers/last name 1/2” from the top of the page. Þ Center title after heading. Þ Double space throughout the paper. Þ Indent the first sentence of all paragraphs by one tab. Þ Use 1” margins throughout the paper except for page numbers which should be 1/2” from the top of the page. 4. Works Cited List (MLA)/ References Page (APA): The Works Cited List (Reference Page) is the last page(s) of a research paper and includes only those sources you actually quote, paraphrase, refer to, or cite in the text of your paper. To receive a passing grade on this assignment you must cite at least FOUR sources in the text of your paper include the same FOUR sources on the Works Cited List of your FINAL research paper (see item #5 below). You will narrow your list down from your annotated bibliography. You may, of course, exceed the above requirements as long as you meet the minimum number of four sources. 5. Types of sources on your Works Cited List: Þ 1 book Þ 1-2 scholarly journals (must come from the University databases) Þ 1 newspaper article Þ 1 Website (Wikipedia does not count as a credible Website) 6. Things to keep in mind: Þ You will be developing an ARGUMENT that is in response to a research question, NOT describing a topic or writing an informative paper. However, you may find the need to use descriptive or informative techniques in your paper. Þ Grammatical, punctuation, and organization errors count. Þ PROOFREAD the text of your paper, as well as the Citations list. Exceeding criteria: In order to qualify for the “A” you will need to first meet all the basic requirements stated above plus the following: 1. Topic will be evaluated for overuse of topic and cliché’ – If you aim to exceed criteria, be aware that your topic will need to be developed and approved ON TIME (students with late topic proposals will be ineligible for exceeding criteria). 2. Minimum of five sources must be used, including two peer reviewed articles from the library. 3. Sources should not only be cited properly in-text and on the works cited page but they should be directly analyzed and connected to the argument in a meaningful way. 4. Full peer-review participation and rough draft completed on-time. 5. Length of at least 2,000 words